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ELECTION 2010

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BREAKING THE MOULD

Shoppers in town were confronted by this strange sight on Saturday - a model being covered in plaster outside the Art Room Gallery in North Street.

It was part of the gallery's latest exhibition and artist Rod McIntosh explained: "I wrapped the model in cling film and positioned her as if looking through the window. It's a bit like when you break an arm or a leg - the same sort of plaster. I was introduced to the technique when I trained in sculpture in Yorkshire."

Life model Sharon Binnie had to brave the cold weather while she was draped in wet sacks mixed with plaster.

She said: "It was very heavy and got warmer as the plaster began to go off. It was an interesting experience."

The Art Room is holding events with artists involved in the South East Open Studios project.

The gallery's Emma Dove said: "We are going to use the sculpture to put outside the shop to entice passersby."

"We hold these events so people get to know the gallery. We want it to become part of the community."



■ BY ED HILL

THE son of elderly residents at the new Joseph Hadlum Court care home has questioned its safety procedures after a blaze caused by a discarded cigarette.

On Monday, last week, a serious fire in one of the apartments at the Eastern Avenue centre left a man in hospital with severe burns. He is being treated in a specialist unit where his condition is said to be serious.

Kent Fire and Rescue officials say they suspect the fire was started by a discarded cigarette.

Daniel Gower, whose parents moved in when the centre opened in December, claims lives are being put at risk by the management's refusal to ban smoking in apartments, despite the majority of residents requesting a ban.

He said: "There seems to be an effort to hush up what is going on and ignore requests by residents for a smoking ban in apartments."

"This is logical because if you are going to allow smoking in a care home, it should be somewhere where people can be supervised."

Joseph Hadlum Court is run by the company Housing 21 with backing from Kent County Council and Ashford council.

Mr Gower said: "They are happy to ban people having pets but when it comes to something serious like this they turn a blind eye."

"There have been a lot of allegations about poor treatment and poor food. This flies in the face of the Housing 21 claim to be looking after

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



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INSIDE your lifestyle

your lifestyle

Heavy going for Downey Jr in Iron Man 2
 Metallic Marvel superhero sequel is weighed down by too much expectation
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EDITOR: Gareth Arnold 01303 817025
GROUP EDITOR: Gary Wright 01303 817032
WEBSITE: www.yourashford.co.uk
TELEPHONE ADVERTISING: 01303 817110
FAX: (Advertising) 01303 817002

EMAIL: editorial@kosmedia.co.uk Sales: advertising@kosmedia.co.uk
HEAD OFFICE ADDRESS: Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SS

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TRAFFIC CHAOS: Residents fear plans for 600 homes will increase problems on roads

Action group ready to fight housing plan

■ BY ED HILL

KENNINGTON residents say they want to prove that a massive new housing scheme proposed for the area will only add to Ashford's traffic chaos.

The Kennington North estate proposals involve building 600 homes near the Towers School and possibly creating a link road between the A28 and A251. There are also proposals to build a further 600 homes at the Hockey Club site near Ball Lane.

Philip Sims is one of a group of householders organising a meeting at Bockhanger Community Centre on Saturday (May 15) to discuss the proposal with councillors.

He said: "The key thing is they are considering putting in this extra housing but doing nothing to all the other roads that service the area."

"Six hundred home owners are going to want to work somewhere. It is doubtful that they will all work in Ashford, Faversham or Canterbury. They are all going to make their way either to Ashford station or to the nearby motorways. All those routes clog up very quickly at the moment."

ly at the moment."

The action group has leafleted 2,000 homes in the area. They have also asked people to write objecting to the scheme. Campaigners say none of the people they have spoken to think the scheme is a good idea.

Mr Sims said: "People have to drive through the town to get to the station. It is all very well saying you have a 37-minute journey to London on the train, but it could take you 40 minutes to get to the station by car."

"This all goes back to Mr Prescott saying that Ashford has to have all these houses, but where are the jobs for them. If everyone is going to commute to London then the housing really needs to be on the other side of the town."

The group also says the houses will damage natural habitats, absorb villages and enclose the area in a concrete box.

Mr Sims said: "We want to show the councillors and Ashford's Future that there is no need for it. Look at all the empty offices in Ashford at the moment, we do not have a thriving economy."

"They have got their numbers wrong. The traffic flows will turn the whole of northern Ashford into a nightmare."

The meeting is being held at Bockhanger Community Centre, Bybrook Road, at 7pm on Saturday.



SAFETY CONCERNS: Joseph Hadlum Court

Smoking ban in flats 'would infringe rights'

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE
 old people with dignity."

Four fire engines were sent to deal with the fire and 10 people were evacuated from neighbouring apartments.

Mr Gower said: "They say they can't ban smoking because it infringes on people's rights in their own apartments. If that's the case, then they are infringing people's rights by not allowing pets."

When the centre opened it was hailed as a new way to provide homes for elderly people with extra care needs, as part of the Better Homes Active Lives Partnership.

Mr Gower said: "The place is not living up to expectations at all. Visiting relatives are the only ones who seem to inject any sort of liveliness into the place."

"When we aren't there it seems as if the residents are just left to do nothing."

Virginia McClane, operations and partnership manager for Housing 21, said: "We were deeply concerned to learn that a tenant at Joseph Hadlum Court suffered serious injury when a fire broke out in his apartment. Our thoughts are with this gentleman and his family."

"Joseph Hadlum Court is an extra care scheme designed for independent living where residents hold individual tenancies for their properties."

"This means that while smoking restrictions apply in communal areas, as they would in any public space, tenants have the same rights as those living in social housing elsewhere when it comes to their own apartments."

"All apartments are fitted with heat detectors and smoke alarms. The damage was contained within one apartment and no other tenants or staff suffered injury or loss."

KCC said it would be working with Housing 21 to investigate the issues Mr Gower had raised.



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Hunt for bag snatcher on bike

POLICE are appealing for witnesses following two robberies in Ashford committed by a man on a bike.

The first was on April 26 in Beaver Road between 11am and 11.15am when a young man rode past a 46-year-old woman on his bike and snatched a purse she was carrying in her hand.

The woman, who lives in Ashford, tried to keep hold of the purse and suffered a cut to her finger. At the time she was walking with a friend on her way to attend a dental appointment.

The second robbery happened in Kingsnorth Road on May 4 between 1pm and 1.30pm as a 36-year-old woman walked back to work during her lunch break having visited the Post Office.

Again a man on a bike rode past her and as he did so he grabbed her handbag which contained money, bank cards, a mobile phone and a diary. The bag was later found dumped opposite Christ Church School.

The first victim described the man

as white, aged 18 to 25, about 5ft 5in tall and slim. He was wearing blue jeans and a luminous yellow/green jacket with the hood up. She said he had a black bike.

The second victim described the offender as a young male. He was wearing a grey hoodie, with the hood up.

Anyone who saw either robbery or who has information which may help police with their inquiries is asked to contact Det Con Becky Lown on 01303 289438.



LONG NIGHT: An increased turnout kept everyone busy at the count in Ashford, where Conservative Damian Green was elected for the fourth time, with almost 30,000 votes



Stable government crucial, says Green

DAMIAN Green said the most important outcome of negotiations between the Conservative and Liberal Democrats should be a stable government.

Chris Took the Liberal Democrat runner up appeared to support the idea.

He said: "Under a more proportional system we should expect these sorts of discussions regularly. Whatever proposal is put forward we have a democratic lock that means our

"MPs and members must be consulted. I suspect the vast majority would reject a deal that did not include proposals for electoral reform.

"In my mind the best outcome would be for a Conservative minority administration (a confidence and supply agreement) or a formal coalition between the Conservatives and Lib Dems that ensured our £10,000 tax proposals, our pupil premium, greater localism and an agreement on a new voting system."

One of the main policy disagreements between the two parties is immigration.

Mr Green is the Tory immigration spokesman, and is in favour of creating an annual cap for immigrant workers from Europe and a new border police force to crack down on people trafficking.

The Liberal Democrats have proposed an amnesty for some illegal migrant workers who have been here 10 or more years.

Tories celebrating massive majority

■ BY ED HILL

ELECTION 2010

IT REALLY would have been the biggest upset in electoral history for Damian Green's majority to have come under threat, despite the national uncertainty surrounding the election.

Yet even the Tory immigration spokesman was surprised by his huge 29,878 vote majority, one of the largest number of votes an MP for Ashford has ever polled.

His success came despite him having to spend a lot of time on the national campaign trail supporting other candidates and preparing David Cameron for the leadership TV debates.

Mr Green said: "Personally, I am delighted. This is the fourth time I have been elected in Ashford so people know what they are getting. I

have a huge number of friends here and am involved in lots of societies.

"It is a fascinating constituency. It has huge issues because of the growth plans, but also has beautiful countryside. It's a genuine privilege and a challenge to represent Ashford and I hope to do it for many years."

There was an expectation that the performance of the Liberal Democrat's national campaign might mean more votes for the party locally. Sure enough, Liberal Democrat Chris Took became the first Liberal Democrat to finish second since 1992, beating Labour's Chris Clark, yet he was obviously disappointed he had not managed to chip away at Mr Green's majority.

Mr Took said: "The majority was huge and I was hopeful of doing a bit better. We have fought a very good campaign here.

"I think there have been a lot of

confused messages nationally. From this election we have got 60 volunteers to help us campaign locally and the best way to win a seat is to have as many councillors as possible."

Labour's Chris Clark admitted that it had been a tough election campaign, as he was forced to defend his party's recent record in government.

He said: "I think this drop for us to third place is a temporary shift. The fact that Damian has increased his majority reflects he is a solid constituency MP who has said a Conservative government will not threaten Labour policies such as Sure Start and Tax credits. It has been a great honour to represent my party in my home town."

Steven Campkin the Green party candidate, beaten by UKIP's Jeff Elenor, put a brave face on the fact he had come last.

He said: "I have enjoyed being the candidate. A thousand people voted for me and I want to carry on representing them in the future."



How votes were cast

Damian Green (Con)	29,878
Chris Took (Lib Dem)	12,581
Chris Clark (Labour)	9,204
Jeffrey Elenor (UKIP)	2,508
Steve Campkin (Green)	1,014
Majority	17,297
Turnout	55,185
Up 2.5 per cent	679

THE ALSO-RANS: Labour's Chris Clark, Chris Took, of the Liberal Democrats and Steve Campkin, Green

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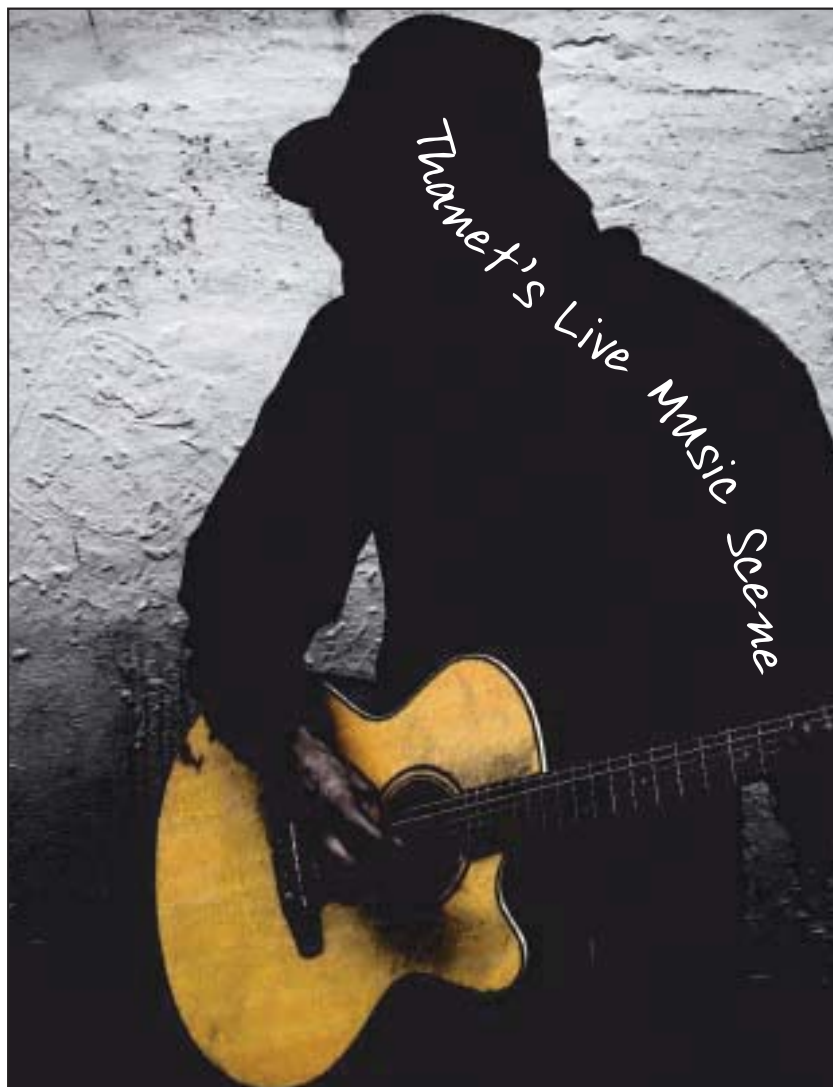


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Thursday 20th May
Mixed Emotions

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Saturday 15th May
Left of Dial
Bradstow Mill, 125 High Street,
Broadstairs 01843 861108

Friday 21st May
Breed
The Red Lion, 1 King Street,
Ramsgate 01843 586713

Saturday 22nd May
Blow
Bradstow Mill, 125 High Street,
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Saturday 22nd May
Damage Case
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Thursday 27th May
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The New Inn, 2 Delf Street,
Sandwich 01304 612335

Friday 28th May
Jeepster
The Red Lion, 1 King Street,
Ramsgate 01843 586713

Saturday 29th May
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The Red Lion, 1 King Street,
Ramsgate 01843 586713

Saturday 29th May
Blow
Bradstow Mill, 125 High Street,
Broadstairs 01843 861108

Saturday 5th June
Nearly Famous
The Red Lion, 1 King Street,
Ramsgate 01843 586713

Saturday 5th June
Thirsty as Grandad
Bradstow Mill, 125 High Street,
Broadstairs 01843 861108



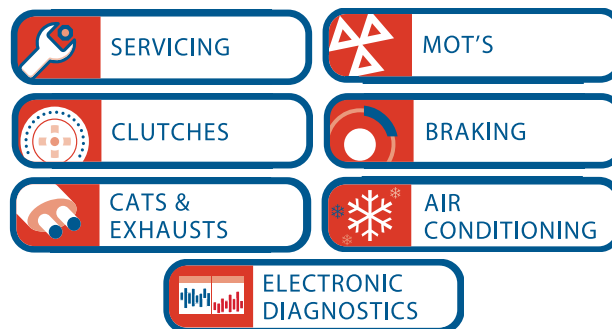
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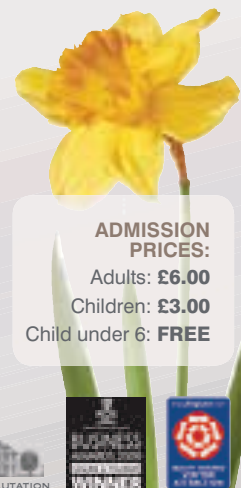
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Tributes to Sea Cadet who fell from tall ship

A POST mortem on the young Sea Cadet who fell from the rigging of a tall ship has confirmed he died of severe chest injuries.

Fourteen-year-old Jonathon Martin from Shadoxhurst was on the training ship TS Royalist, which was taking part in the cadet's 150th anniversary celebration in the Solent.

The ship had sailed out to Stokes Bay, when at about 8.30pm, Jonathan fell 30ft from the rigging into the water.

He was recovered by a lifeboat and taken by helicopter to Queen Alexandra Hospital, Cosham, where he was pronounced dead.

Cadets wear harnesses when climbing the rigging, although they have to unclip them when moving from the

■ BY ED HILL

ropes and onto the yard arms to furl the sails. Hampshire Constabulary is now preparing a file on Jonathon's death for the coroner.

In a statement his family said: "Jonathan was a wonderful son and grandson who tragically died whilst doing something he loved.

"He was a popular young man who will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

"In relation to the accident, it is being investigated and we have no further comment to make."

TS Royalist has been in service since 1971 and has never had a fatal accident. It is owned and run by the Marine Society and Sea Cadets.

In a statement they said: "Jonathon joined the Sea Cadets in 2008.

"It was the second trip on Royalist for Jonathon, who loved the water sport aspect of Sea Cadet activities.

"He was a popular and much loved cadet who worked hard and was looking forward to a great future within the Sea Cadets.

"We are all shocked and saddened by this tragic accident and our thoughts are with his family and friends at this distressing and painful time.

"The protection and safeguarding of young people is of paramount importance to the charity, and we take our duty of care very seriously. TS Royalist is staffed by experienced and qualified crew.

"The charity is working with the Marine Accident Investigation Branch to establish the details of what happened and is offering every assistance to the local authorities and police."

Ashford Sea Cadet Unit was formed in 1942. The group has 55 cadets aged between 10 and 18.

A minutes' silence was held on Thursday at the TA centre where the group meets and prayers were said by the group's chaplain the Rev Colin Preece.



TRAGEDY: Sea Cadet Jonathon Martin fell to his death from the rigging of the tall ship TS Royalist



Youngster snaps up photography awards

THE TEENAGE winner of an Ashford photography competition has won second prize in a national contest.

Nikole Love, 14, was named the runner up in the Commonwealth Games' We Are England photography competition in the under 16 age group, for her stunning action shot of a hockey game in Kent.

The competition is aimed at celebrating everything about England and Englishness ahead of the Commonwealth Games



that take place later this year in Delhi.

The Towers School pupil also won in the 12 to 17 age group in the Ashford Best Placed in Britain competition last year.

She said: "When I heard

about the We Are England competition, I really wanted to see if my work would be good enough for the judges, since the public had really liked my photo in Ashford."

Nikole's picture is now on display in the SW! Gallery in London. She also won tickets to an Arsenal football match.

The final date for entries into this year's Ashford Best Placed competition is today.

Go to www.ashfordbestplaced.co.uk/photo to see the entries so far and enter.

yourashford

NEWS IN BRIEF

Cigarette sparks blaze

A PENSIONER escaped unharmed after a discarded cigarette set light to a wastepaper basket at his home.

Ashford firefighters were called to a blaze in Kilndown Close in Stanhope on Saturday, May 1, after the 79-year-old man returned to his house to find smoke pouring from his living room, just after 2pm.

Fire crews to extinguished the blaze and managed to save the rest of the house, but the living room and its contents were damaged by heat and smoke.

Station Manager Lee Rose said: "It appears that relatives of the man had been smoking in the property and unknowingly caused the blaze before leaving. This was a slow burning fire that caused thick smoke. It is lucky the occupant came home when he did.

"This unfortunate incident highlights the importance of ensuring cigarettes and other smoking materials are disposed of safely."

Toys damaged at school

POLICE are looking for four teenage thugs who broke into a primary school shed and damaged bikes intended for young children.

The break in happened during the early hours of Bank Holiday Monday, May 3.

CCTV cameras caught two boys and two girls, thought to be aged 14 to 15, breaking into the shed at Palmash Primary School.

One boy was wearing a black jacket with a white stripe across the chest. One of the girls was wearing a bright pink hat with ear pieces and tassels. Anyone with information is asked to call police on 01303 289271.

Paralympic funding boost

FOUR Paralympic hopefuls have been given funding through the Active Ashford Bursary.

Swimmer Nick Boylan, sitting volleyball players Claire Harvey and Helen Sole and athlete Candy Hawkins have all received financial assistance on travelling, training and coaching expenses through the scheme.

All four have represented Great Britain in recent years, winning many awards and breaking World Records, and hope to be selected for 2012.

The Active Ashford bursary scheme is due to re-open for applicants in August, see www.activeashford.co.uk for more details.

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Race to get you fit

FITNESS First in Ashford is advising women on how to train for forthcoming Races For Life.

The 5km run for the charity Cancer Research UK takes place at venues around the county in June.

Health and Fitness Manager, David Palmer at the Ashford branch said: "Absolute beginners still have time to follow a sensible training programme that is well within their capabilities.

Mr Palmer's first tip is to try walking for two minutes and then running for eight minutes. Repeat this three times and as the weeks progress try cutting down on the walking still further until you can run for about 30 minutes.



Soroptimists' gift

A GIRL Guide's dream trip to South Africa is a step closer thanks to the Ashford Soroptimist Club.

Courtney Perham from Willesborough was given a cheque for £50 recently. She has been selected to represent Girl Guides in London and the South East on a trip to South Africa where she will work at a local orphanage.

Jill Townsend, president of Ashford Soroptimists, said she was delighted to support Courtney, who has had to raise £2,200 for the trip.

Courtney joined Ashford Soroptimists at a cream tea to collect her cheque.

To find out more about Ashford Soroptimists, visit www.soroptimist-gbi.co.uk/ashford-kent/

Book is a friend to the churches

■ BY ED HILL

A RUINED church in Eastwell is one of the stars of a new book featuring Britain's 'friendless' churches.

St Mary's is one of the structures cared for by the society Friends of Friendless Churches.

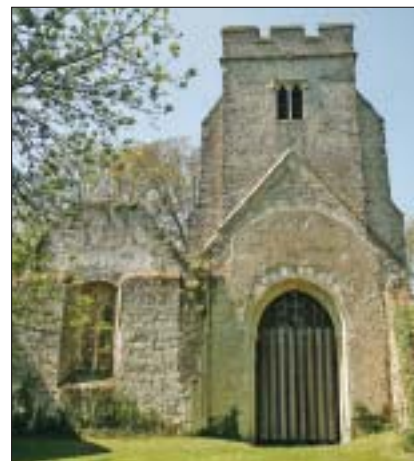
The charity was established in the late 1950s by journalist and author Ivor Bulmer Thomas, who was determined to save ancient, beautiful but redundant churches from demolition.

St Mary's has been cared for by the society since 1980.

The church is a scheduled ancient monument. It is a ruin except for the 15th century tower and the 19th century south west chapel. One of its most well known features is an intriguing memorial to Richard Plantagenet in the churchyard.

The Friends preserve the churches by undertaking repairs where necessary and work to make them accessible as peaceful spaces for the local community.

Linda Hedley from the parish council said: It was originally built around 1380 and windows were added over the next hundred years. It then fell down in 1951. It is thought to have contained two Roman tiles inside and did house a statue of the white lady which is now in the Victoria and Albert Museum.



"The parish council takes care of the grounds around it and we sometimes hold open days with English Heritage.

The society has recently replaced a brick infill designed to keep out vandals at St Mary's with a durable architect-designed iron screen.

Mrs Hedley said: "When I first came here people came and did paintings of it. With the lake next door it is a bit of a beauty spot."

"One of the most interesting things about it is



IDVLL: St Mary's in Eastwell is in a beautiful location, below is the recently placed architect-designed screen

the key to the tower. It weighs about a kilo and is 16 inches long. We are also looking at replacing a plaque that was inside the tower. It still plays an important part of the community and there have been church services in the grounds but you need to have good weather."

Matthew Saunders, honorary director of the Friends and author of the book Saving Churches, said: "The publication of this book marks the charity's significant achievements over the 50 years of its existence.

"Perhaps just as importantly, it also underlines the need for us to defend historic churches in the future – as the fear has to be that the number closing now can only grow."

The book Saving Churches – The First 50 Years is published by Frances Lincoln Ltd. It contains 100 colour photos of buildings which the society says have a common bond of being situated in romantically remote rural locations. It is available from May 27 and costs £16.99.



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Prior to the Board Meeting, the following activities and information will be available:

- 11am - 12.30pm. An interactive display of information on our healthcare services and a chance to meet local clinical staff
- A demonstration of our new website and DVDs showcasing our services
- 1pm - 1.30pm. A chance to question senior NHS staff on a 'Question Time' panel
- Copies of the Agenda and papers will be available on our website, please visit www.eckcommunityservices.nhs.uk

For questions relating to the agenda please contact:

Jill Mackenzie Tel: 01233 667840
Email: jill.mackenzie@eastcoastkent.nhs.uk

Locals given guns to catch speeders

VILLAGERS in Old Wives Lees were issued with speed guns to catch drivers breaking the limit.

Yet during the session no cars were caught speeding through the village.

Police claim the high-visibility Speedwatch event acted as a deterrent to remind drivers to watch their speed.

Speedwatch is a scheme run by the police, working with parish councils.

Insp Andrew Judd said: "Through our Partners and Communities Together meetings we've established local residents are concerned about speeding.

PCSO Dan Smith said: "Drivers should slow down, or they will be caught."

Robber efitted released

AN efitted has been released of a gang member who ransacked a house to steal jewellery and electronic equipment.

A 27-year-old man was threatened by two men at his home in Canterbury Road after they knocked on his door. They demanded cash then took jewellery, an Apple iPhone and a camera.

A third man joined them in the robbery, which took place on April 20 at 1.50am.

One of the men is described as dark European, 5ft 3in tall, medium build, aged 22-23, with short, dark-brown hair and wearing a hooded top.

The second was dark European, 5ft 5in tall, slim build. The third was tall with a green scarf covering his face.

Anyone with information should contact police on 01622 690690 or call Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.



EFIT: Wanted

Children would cheat to win at sport, says poll

■ BY STEVE KNIGHT

DIVERS, shirt-pullers and eye-gougers could be breeding a new generation of sport cheats, according to a recent poll.

The research, commissioned by the Cricket Foundation, found that more than half of schoolchildren would be willing to break the rules to achieve victory in team games.

Examples of bad sportsmanship cited in the survey of 1,015 eight- to 16-year-olds included youngsters feigning injury, punching, kicking and swearing.

Ashford Town manager Steve Lovell, formerly Gillingham's Football in the Community officer, blamed the rise in cheating on the big wages and rewards tied up in sport.

He said: "Football has grown as a business rather than a sport and those involved in the game are more desperate to win because of the finances involved.

"If anything is to be done, it needs to be done at a high level. If kids see players diving and cheating on the telly, they'll think it's OK for them to do the same. We need more positive

role models in the game."

According to the Cricket Foundation poll, 54 per cent of children said they had witnessed bad sportsmanship in every school match they played.

The willingness to cheat went down to 13.3 per cent for those playing individual sports.

Earlier this year, Gravesend rugby player Clarence Harding was partially blinded when he was a victim of an eye-gouging attack during a match against Maidstone.

Nobody has yet been identified as committing the crime, which is still under investigation.

Recent high-profile cases of bad sportsmanship include Thierry Henry handling the ball twice before scoring to send France to the World Cup at the expense of the Republic of Ireland, and rugby's 'Bloodgate' scandal.

Kent Schools RFU secretary David Turner, who is also an England under-16 selector, said he was horrified that cheating had become almost a tradition in rugby.

"I've constantly pressed the RFU at the top



BALL CONTROL: French football player Thierry Henry

level to instruct television commentators not to support cheating.

"They seem to think it's OK for players to pull shirts in rugby, but that's a dangerous view to take and it has a knock-on effect. Cheating has no place in the game."

Even though more than half the children polled said they would be willing to cheat in sport, only four per cent would describe a sportsman who played unfairly as "cool".

And 67 per cent said that seeing someone break the rules to win would not make them do the same.

But despite the survey being carried out by the Cricket Foundation, Kent Cricket Board community manager Clair Gould said her sport did not have a cheating problem.

She said: "I don't think there's an issue with cheating in cricket, and if there was it would be stamped out quickly because fair play is the backbone of the game."

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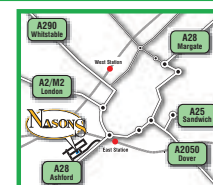
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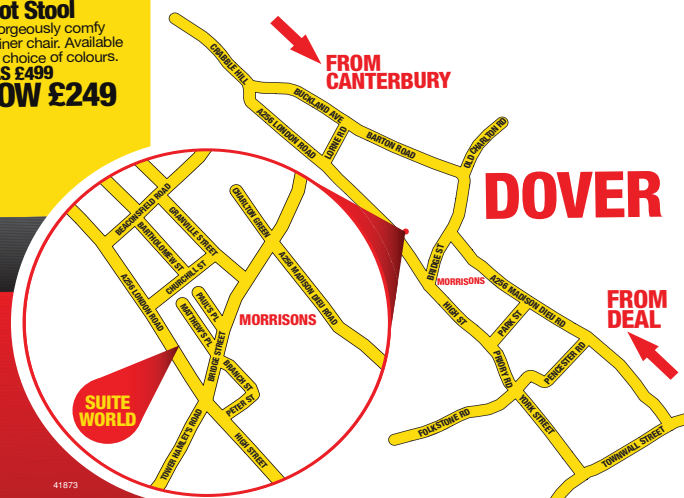
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Liberation heroes join party

■ BY NICK AMES

THE 65th anniversary of the liberation of Holland saw 380 veterans – who fought from the Normandy beaches on D-Day into the Low Countries and beyond – attend commemorations on May 5.

Coaches left the Port of Dover last week heading for the lands they freed from the Nazis at the end of World War Two.

Events in Holland were coordinated by the Normandy Veterans' Association and Norfolkline ferries supplied free transport for five coaches of veterans on its Dover-Dunkirk route.

Peter Hodge, who raises funds for veterans, said they had all been welcomed.

He said: "It's bought back memories and we've been treated extremely well. The Dutch really appreciate what the Allied soldiers did for them. It's very emotional for everyone."

"In one village there was dancing in the streets and veterans received medals. We were also able to say thank you to the Dutch resistance who helped so many British and other Allied troops and airmen. We were able to show it was a combined effort to liberate Holland."

"It's also great to see how the Dutch have recovered from the war. Places bombed and battered now have real style. It's fantastic."

Holland was liberated by Canadian troops, with the assistance of the British and American armies and the French also playing a part.

On May 5, 1945, Canadian General Charles Foulkes and German Commander-in-Chief Johannes Blaskowitz reached an agreement on the capitulation of Nazi forces in the Netherlands, at the Hotel De Wereld, Wageningen.

This followed a failed Allied attempt to end the war quickly through Operation Market Garden, which saw airborne troops dropped near bridges over the Rhine, including at Arnhem – the famous A Bridge Too Far.

But British veterans who did help liberate the Dutch were applauded for their heroism at last week's events, including a service in the village of Zutphen.

They were joined by Canadian and Belgian veterans of the conflict.

At the service was a group of Dutch resistance people who had risked their lives by sheltering downed Allied airmen and troops.



WE'LL BE BACK: British Paras, above, in Arnhem during the failed attempt to capture bridges over the Rhine after the Allied airborne assault of Operation Market Garden, right, in September, 1944. Dutch liberation would have to wait until May 5, 1945

After the liberation in 1945, Liberation Day was commemorated every five years. Finally, in 1990, the day was declared to be a national holiday when the liberation would be commemorated and celebrated every year.

On May 4 each year, the Dutch hold a Remembrance of the Dead for those who fought and died during the 1939-45 conflict and wars in general.

There is a remembrance gathering in the Nieuwe Kerk in Amsterdam and at the national monument on Dam Square in Amsterdam. Throughout the country, two minutes of silence are observed at 8pm.



Jailed backpacker halts appeal

A BACKPACKER tortured and locked up for six years in an Indian jail has given up his fight for innocence and begged to come home.

Patrick Malluzzo, 32, from Dartford, has applied for a transfer to a British prison, even though it means dropping an appeal against his conviction in the Indian Supreme Court.



Malluzzo (above), who was arrested in 2004 for possession of cannabis, said his fight had "reached the end of the road".

"I have been fighting for justice for six years, which has taken a serious toll," he said. "I want to return to the UK so I can be close to my family."

Malluzzo was arrested while backpacking when a bag containing 19kg of cannabis – worth £2,000 in India – was found under train seats booked

in his name and that of his co-accused 'J'. He had not used the seat after a change in plans, but his bag and personal belongings were found with the drugs.

He claimed he had asked J – another British backpacker – to take them so he could travel light, arranging to meet later in Goa.

The pair met and J said he had got off the train to buy food and it had left the station with the belongings.

Malluzzo said he had thought nothing of it and booked flights to Thailand, but was arrested at Mumbai airport and charged with possession of cannabis.

Malluzzo was jailed and forced to wait two years for a trial, during which he claimed to be tortured. He signed a confession and was sentenced to 10 years in Kota jail.

His co-accused J was acquitted. An appeal in the Rajasthan High Court this year also proved unsuccessful.

RSPB's 'Futurescape' plan for estuary

WILDLIFE in the Thames Estuary should be better protected against potentially harmful developments like Boris Island, says the RSPB.

The charity believes conservation should be about the entire landscape, putting the environment at the heart of every planning issue.

It has identified the estuary as the first of several planned 'Futurescape' regions, which would involve teaming up with other conservation groups, businesses, local authorities and communities.

Such a partnership could spell the end for controversial proposals such as London Mayor Boris Johnson's idea for an airport off the Kent coast.

Andre Farrar, of the RSPB, said: "Those behind plans like this are harking back to older ways of thinking that really don't deliver and would be hugely damaging. We have a responsibility to ensure we put the

future of these places at the heart of decision-making."

The RSPB owns or manages 40 sq km of land for wildlife on the Thames and has spent more than £50 million regenerating land in the region. The estuary is listed as the UK's fifth most important site for water birds.

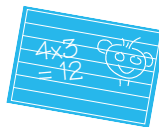
In 2002 the charity joined other campaigners in defeating the Government's plans for an airport at Cliffe, near Rochester, and is working with developers to ensure the Thames Gateway project benefits wildlife as well as residents.

The RSPB is also campaigning against the Lydd airport expansion plan. Mr Farrar said: "As a nation we need to look hard at how we can improve the situation. Futurescapes are about working with local authorities to ensure conservation is not an afterthought."



FEATHERED FRIENDS: Avocet are just some of the visitors to the Thames estuary

Picture CHRIS COMERSAL



BREAK TIME

£30,000 boost for children's charity

THE Royal College of Music in Kensington was the venue for the Caldecott Foundation's charity dinner, which raised £30,000 for the children's charity based in Smeeth.

At the event the Caldecott School Choir performed their own medley of R Kelly's I Believe I Can Fly, conducted by the school's music teacher, Andy Croft. Guests were greatly moved by the performance.

After a charity auction guests enjoyed a performance from upcoming singer-songwriter James Carrington.

Head of fundraising, Sam Scott said: "We had some amazing performances from a group of talented people. The children were thrilled to be able to perform in front of such a large audience and were delighted by the response."

To find out how you can help the Caldecott Foundation call 01303 815697.

Pupils compete in Kent athletics heat

ONE of the heats of the Kent School Games took place at the Julie Rose stadium last week.

The stadium welcomed teams from the Sheppey and Sittingbourne area.

The finals of the competition begin in June. The Kent school games are thought to be the largest school sports event in Europe.

Other heats of the competition are being held at various sporting venues around the county.

Crew is celebrating after breakdance battle success

■ BY ED HILL

A BREAKDANCE crew from Highworth Grammar School has come second in a national competition.

Breakin' Hearts is a 12-strong group first formed in 2007. It consists of 10 girls and two boys aged between 13-18 who have competed both regionally and nationally in street dance competitions.

The team competed in the TruSkool Finals 2010, of the National Schools Breakdance Battle at Stratford Circus in London.

Twelve dance crews attended from high schools all around the country. Breakin' Hearts won Best Showcase in the morning session and after taking part in battle rounds in the afternoon, came second overall, winning a glass trophy.

The team have been helped with sponsorship by a local accountancy firm and business advisers Wilkins Kennedy.

The company decided to sponsor the group after they were sent a DVD by the school of them performing.

They have also been helped by dancer AJ Bboy Jackson, from the Soul Mavericks, who became their mentor and helped to train the team.

The crew won the 2009 London Breakin' Battle last December and won Best Showcase and were overall Southern Heat winners in the southern qualifiers in Esher in Surrey earlier this year.

Seri Hodges, head of dance at Highworth



SUPPORT: Breakin' Hearts breakdance crew express their appreciation to their sponsors from Wilkins Kennedy

Grammar School, said: "We had a fantastic day out, it was very close at the end.

"Thanks to the sponsorship arrangement from Wilkins Kennedy we were able to afford a new kit, and we are also able to continue the mentoring programme, which is really important to our members.

"I am very proud of the crew who work really hard, practising every lunchtime and for two hours after school every Tuesday."

Mike Swan, partner in the Wilkins Kennedy Ashford Office, said: "Supporting schools and

the local community is very important to us. We are looking forward to a long-term arrangement with the crew, supporting their primary schools' community outreach programme and the summer school dance academy.

"We are really pleased they achieved such a fantastic result in the national competition finals."

For more information about the community outreach programme email s.hodges@highworth.kent.sch.uk

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YOUR LETTERS

Wake up before there's nothing left

Very soon this country will not be ours.

The politicians are giving everything away to the EU and are destroying our national identity by mass immigration.

Our industries – cars, steel, coal, ship-building, fishing, textiles, aviation...

Everything that provided millions of jobs and apprenticeships has been decimated or shipped abroad and thrown many on the scrapheap – yet thousands of immigrants are pouring into this country every week. Why?

Where are the jobs for your children, let alone your grandchildren, coming from as they compete against cheap labour and our industries sold abroad?

It isn't extreme to give our country and industries away, only extreme when the British National Party opposes it.

A vote for the Liberal Democrats, Labour or the Conservatives was a vote for the real extremists – they are traitors to this country.

Our utilities and big-name firms have been sold off to foreign companies and now more than half of Britain is owned by overseas investors.

When are you going to wake up and realise that the old gang have been giving away all that Britain has fought and died for when there's nothing left?

In 1992, Jack Straw said: "The English as a race are not worth saving."

If people don't wake up very soon, I will begin to believe him.

Harry Williams, Comment posted on www.yourcanterbury.co.uk



Why can't they just leave God out of it?

Like many men of the cloth, the Bishop of Dover, the Rt Rev Trevor Willmott, appears to be a man of much wisdom and makes good sense until, alas, he inevitably brings God into it (last week's blog). What a pity!

Obviously I, like many others, don't think that God made me, whether unique or otherwise, and the Bishop's assertion to the contrary makes me question the value of his other remarks, however ostensibly sensible they seem.

I have noticed that clerics often tend to bring God and religion into everything. I wish they wouldn't.

Ian Macmillan, by email

your blogger

Gary Wright says MPs would rather have a hung parliament than let us decide their fate again soon



THE forecasters got it wrong, but the exit poll was spot on in predicting the un-decideds didn't have the bottle to vote Lib-Dem and most of the 'newly engaged' first-time voters couldn't actually be bothered to vote at all.

As I write the Lib Dem party is in its fourth day of negotiations with the Tories to form a majority government. Despite their inherent differences, it seems likely the two will find a way to work together.

Cameron's Tories can taste power and will do whatever they need to secure Clegg's support.

And by representing more than 60 per cent of the electorate, it's not a bad thing. Probably.

Electoral reform actually seems quite a good idea although you could argue no one actually voted for it. When the election was announced I celebrated the fact that for four weeks our voices would be heard.

As I said then, French philosopher Jean-Jacques Rousseau summed up our system 250 years ago when he wrote the English are mistaken in thinking they are free: "It is free only during the election of members of parliament; as soon as the members are elected, the people is enslaved."

Now we are sidelined, though I rather admired the 1,000 or so protestors for PR who turned up outside Lib-Dem HQ on Saturday. It's too late though, MPs are elected – now they'll do as they like.

If there is a story in your area you think we should be covering contact the editor, Gareth Arnold, on 01303 817025 or email him on the details above. If you want to be the next Ashford blogger then all you have to do is submit an article to us (of around 550 words) and email it to the editor. And don't forget, for all the latest news and video from your town log-on to www.yourashford.co.uk.

Put your faith in the Bible not politicians

Is it any wonder at the great falling away from Christianity when bishops like Bishop Willmott put their faith in politicians, the UN and other failed organisations of mankind, rather than Jesus Christ!

If he bothered to read his Bible, rather than subscribe to his church's fairy stories and the belief the world is doomed to suffer into perpetuity, he would know all that we see has already been prophesied.

Indeed, in Matthew 24, where Christ's disciples asked for the signs of his return, Christ provides a very comprehensive list of conditions as they are today!

If Bishop Willmott wants to continue claiming he's doing Christ's work, then he should be looking to Christ as his saviour and following his teachings, not looking to the world's corrupt and failed political systems and their teachings.

Phil Granger, by email

There's no one to vote for in The Big Society

I'm with Tim Garbutt, who says it's our duty not to vote. Definitely not with the Bishop.

One big regret that could have helped millions of us – why did all of us not get solar power (hot water for every household) as a

Millennium gift and celebration? Why don't the polluters pay, why do the greatest benefit cheats in Government circles cite immunity from prosecution?

Why are databases and intrusion into our private lives being rolled out?

Feels like collective punishment is going to get worse in England, no matter who gets 'elected'.

Phoney Blair's heir, Dave Cameron, reminds me of a snake-oil salesman.

The damage done to my local area by socially divisive, culturally destructive, sanctimonious and smug Tories (no better than their New Labour counterparts) is distressing.

As a veteran US investor has just said, the euro is unlikely to survive long-term.

Despite the claptrap we were fed to get us into the EU, thankfully we have not been entirely sucked into the Euro-mess.

I am thankful to Ian Taylor, of NO2ID. His views are spot on – sham democracy through more crazy policies like the Big Society is not required. As floating voters and non-voters have declared, we need to get rid of the rotten system and the rotters running it.

Otherwise, what are we voting for? More of the same, from what I can read between the platitudes and false assurances.

We need protection, stability and full employment, but no party will curb, restrain or hard-prune the overgrowth and financial damage of rampant bureaucracy.

Cameron must come up with a deal or a lot of his party members are going to be very upset and he'll face the boot as leader.

Brown's offer to Clegg on Friday may have sounded a bit desperate. That's because it was, but unfortunately he has nothing to offer Clegg and his band of 50.

Britain is in deep financial trouble, whoever runs the country will be forced by the IMF and Europe to do the right thing, even if does mean sacking hundreds of thousands of NHS and public sector staff.

For Labour losing will be the best thing that happened to them. Did they really want to implement cuts that would have ensured they'd be out of power for a another generation?

For Cameron almost winning is probably good enough. With the Lib Dems on board he has someone to blame when the electorate gets upset. He can also build his image as a statesman and win over those in his party who think his election campaign was a bit rubbish really. Next time he *could* secure a majority.

And for the Lib Dems, they'll have a taste of power at the top table. I reckon they'll be a few defectors over the next couple of years who'll like life as a Tory and will be tempted by the trappings of office.

As I've said though now we must watch from the sidelines, the MPs are back in charge and they will decide both their own destiny... and eventually, ours.

Don't believe talk of another election soon – they'd rather have a hung parliament with compromises than face giving us have our say again too soon.

The poor are forced to pay for the rich in England's thefts.

Who is there to redress the balance and give us a chance? Not those who take bonuses for turning up on time and meeting antisocial, inhumane and senseless targets and socially useless policies.

The Big Society is already alive and kicking – Cameron will tweak it but wants to shift responsibility rather than cure the disease.

Rita Grootendorst, by email

Let your vote be seen with green

As someone once said if you want nobody to run your life... Vote for nobody.

I sympathise with the view of not voting and the idea of a 'None of the Above' box but in the current circumstances with the far-right on the rise it is important to keep them well out. I hope wherever the far-right and Greens for example both stood people who oppose the main Parties voted Green at least.

Ray Duff, by email

Run marathon for four legged friends

Feeling inspired to run in next year's Virgin London Marathon? Then apply for a place on Tuesday, May 4, but hurry, as they go extremely quickly!

If you're lucky enough to get a place, why not run for PDSA, the

UK's leading veterinary charity?

Joining our running team means you'll receive training tips, a vest and somewhere to relax after the race, and you will be helping us to raise vital funds for sick and injured pets.

PDSA also has a limited amount of guaranteed marathon places. To find out how to apply, please email me at marathon@pdsa.org.uk or call 0800 917 2509.

Brenda Smith, by email

The real cost for cancer patients

Money worries should be the last thing on your mind following a cancer diagnosis, but in fact patients tell Macmillan Cancer Support that they're second only to pain in causing them stress and anxiety.

Macmillan knows that unfortunately the bills don't stop just because you are ill and so provides benefits-advisers in local communities and calls for a better financial deal for people affected by cancer.

But sometimes more immediate relief is called for and that's why the charity gave out more than £203,989 to 632 people in Kent last year, specifically to help those who were struggling to pay their bills after a cancer diagnosis.

Our grants can make a real difference to someone with cancer in desperate need, but they cannot be a permanent solution.

That's where our local Macmillan benefits-advisers and phone-line can help. Cancer can have a devastating effect on people's finances, especially if they have to give up work.

There is money in the Government pot, but people don't always know it's available or are reluctant to claim.

Often people are too ill to fill out the long and complicated claim forms.

In 2009, Macmillan gave out almost £9 million in grants to more than 27,000 people nationally.

This means that every week, more than 400 people receive a grant from Macmillan.

Most people who claim for grants need money for fuel bills, followed closely by a need for new clothes.

Help with the cost of getting to hospital and parking is the third biggest issue, but the charity also gives money for household items, such as washing machines, to make life easier as well as items that help individuals continue with activities they enjoy.

For example, a grant was recently given to a man with cancer of the larynx to help pay for a special swimming device, so that he could still enjoy swimming after his operation. Sadly, help was also required for ten children who were less than a year old.

If you or a family member have been diagnosed with cancer and you're struggling financially, you can phone Macmillan free on 0808 808 00 00 or visit macmillan.org.uk for information and support and to find out what help is available.

Richard Shaw, Macmillan

TOO FULL?

Rochester Prison is one of many in the county



Overcrowded jails in 'crisis'

A PENAL reform charity has criticised the justice system after figures revealed prisons are overcrowded by more than 100 per cent.

HMP Canterbury, which contains only foreign prisoners, was listed at number nine in the top 20 most overpopulated prisons in England and Wales. The report, by the Howard League for Penal Reform, showed the jail was certified for use for 195 prisoners, but the population in March, 2010, was 303.

Frances Crook, director of the charity, called it a "crisis", adding: "Overcrowding results in fewer resources being available for each prisoner. Consequently, prison services focus on maintenance of basic amenities more than reintegration and security, more than purposeful activity and rehabilitation."

A total of 80 prisons out of the 139 in England and Wales are overpopulated, with around 19,000 inmates sharing a cell designed for just one person. On average, prisons are overcrowded by 111 per cent.

A spokesman from the prison service said the Ministry of Justice was unable to comment on HMP Canterbury.

He added: "Since April, 2007, over 7,500 places have been delivered under the capacity programme."

Girls just want to raise funds

■ BY MARIJKE COX

THE voices of 100 Kent women and a host of celebrities have hit the airwaves in a bid to top the charts and raise money for cancer research.

Music moguls hope their remake of 1980s classic Girls Just Want to Have Fun will reach number one as millions of women take to the streets in this year's 5km Race for Life, which is being held at towns across the UK over the next three months.

As the country's largest female-only event, the campaign, led by Cancer Research UK, has raised more than £300m since it first launched in 1994. And this year, as well as gearing up for Kent's six Race for Life events, 100 women lent their voices for the new charity single, released earlier this month.

Some of those involved in the recording, which took place at Bluewater in February, have had their own struggles with cancer.

They feature alongside 20 celebrities, including actress Caroline Quentin, glamour model Danielle Lloyd, TV presenter Zoe Salmon and actress and singer Kym Marsh.

DJ Sonique – famous for her number one hit It Feels So Good – also took part; stepping back into the limelight following her own battle with



GIRLS ALOUD: Singing for charity during the recording session at Bluewater are Carol Decker from 80s band T'Pau, Su-Elise Nash from former girlband Mis-Teeq and Lisa Scott-Lee, former Steps member; right is Caroline Quentin

breast cancer. The singer has just finished six weeks of radiotherapy after three operations to remove a cancerous lump.

The 41-year-old said: "Knowing the single features women who, like me, have been directly affected by cancer, as well as hundreds of women from across the UK, makes me feel extremely proud."

"Recording the single was so much fun and meeting other women who wanted to do their bit to help the cause was really inspirational."

"I hope this inspires people to buy the track



and inspires every woman, whether they want to walk, jog, or run, to sign up for a Race for Life this year too."

Race for Life is now in its 17th year, with more than 700,000 taking part last year and £60m raised for Cancer Research UK's lifesaving work.

To sign up for an event in your area or for more information about the single, priced at 79p for download, go to www.raceforlife.org.

Money raised through the single will go to Cancer Research UK.

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DAY & NIGHT

City hosts climate fair

FIND out how our planet is changing at Canterbury Climate Fair this weekend.

Stalls, entertainers and Fairtrade and organic stalls can be found along The Parade and St George's Street. The event, organised by Greenpeace, runs from 9am to 5pm on Saturday and 10am to 4pm on Sunday. For details visit findwww.canterburyclimatefair.org.

Relax to choral music

ENJOY an evening of sacred choral music when Cantate Chamber Choir performs in Broadstairs on Sunday.

The choir will sing works by Bruckner, Stanford and John Rutter at Our Lady Star of the Sea Church in Broadstairs Road at 7.30pm. Tickets cost £6. For details of Cantate visit www.cantate-thanet.co.uk.

Trio to play the classics

SARAH Thorne spring classical concerts continue with a performance on piano, violin and cello.

Peter Hewitt, Peter Fisher and Peter Adams will play classics by Haydn, Beethoven and Tchaikovsky at the Memorial Theatre, Broadstairs at 3pm on Sunday. Tickets cost £8/£5. Call 0845 262 6263 or email info@sarahthorne-theatreclub.co.uk. Non-members must book at least 24 hours in advance.

Biggins is belle of ball

CHRISTOPHER Biggins will be the special guest auctioneer at Demelza House's May Ball on Saturday.

Held at Eastwell Manor near Ashford, the event will raise funds for the Kent children's hospice. Tickets, at £100, include Champagne and a three-course dinner. Call Sarah on 01795 845204, email sarah.taylor@demelza.org.uk or visit www.demelza.org.uk.

Boogie party with Pete

CHILDREN are invited to a party with TV favourite Boogie Pete on Sunday.

Pete Hillier, from the BAFTA-winning TV series Boogie Beebies, hosts Partytime, for children aged two and above. The show is at Quarterhouse, Folkestone at 2.30pm and tickets cost £8 or £28 for families. Call 01303 858500 or visit www.quarterhouse.co.uk.

Classic cars and beer

HUNDREDS of vehicles will be on display this weekend at the Faversham Classic Car and Motorcycle Show.

The show is in the town centre on Sunday and information can be found online at www.faversham.org.uk. Visitors can also take a tour of Shepherd Neame brewery. To book visit www.shepherdneame.co.uk or call 01795 542016.

Don't miss Swan Lake

VIENNA Festival Ballet returns to Margate on Sunday with Swan Lake.

Danced to Tchaikovsky's unforgettable music, Swan Lake can be seen at the Winter Gardens at 5pm. Tickets cost £17/£15 for adults, £8 for children and £7.50 for dance schools. To book call 01843 292795/296111 or visit www.margatewintergardens.co.uk.



A night out with Jools and friends

JOOLS HOLLAND

Saturday, June 12, Winter Gardens, Margate.



GET ready to boogie on down to Thanet next month when the inimitable Jools Holland pays a visit.

With his famous Rhythm and Blues Orchestra, Holland's live shows have become must-see events for fans of toe-tapping, hip-swinging music.

In recent years, Holland has performed to four million people and his concerts have become an annual event for many people, who cannot get enough of the band's excellent musicianship. A party atmosphere pervades at all their shows and June's concert is sure to get the summer off to a swinging start.

Some very special guests join Holland for the concert at the Winter Gardens, including singer Alison Moyet. With her distinctive, soul-infused voice, Moyet became a big star in the 80s as one half of Yazoo and went on to enjoy considerable solo success. The other guest vocalists will be Ruby Turner and Louise Marshall, and former Squeeze drummer Gilson Lavis will also be performing.

Born in south east London in 1958, Holland soon revealed himself to be a prodigious musical talent and by the time he was eight, he

could play the piano fluently by ear. During his early teens he began his performing career in London pubs, although his first steps to success came when he formed Squeeze at the age of just 15.

Along with Glenn Tilbrook and Chris Difford, he achieved extraordinary success, and hits such as Up The Junction and Cool For Cats still enjoy radio airplay today. Squeeze became popular in America and the band performed at the iconic Madison Square Garden.

During his days with Squeeze, Holland formed a lasting professional relationship with drummer Gilson Lavis, with whom he is still working today.

The pair became the first members of the Jools Holland Big Band, formed in 1987, which eventually became the 20-piece Jools Holland and his Rhythm and Blues Orchestra. Now a staple part of many fans' annual music calendar, the orchestra is always in demand and the highlight of many a festival.

Alongside his career as a musician, Holland has also become a TV presenter and broadcaster. He made his first foray into presenting when he interviewed The Police for a documentary in the early 80s and then auditioned for The Tube, a youth culture show which soon became cult viewing.

With his co-presenter Paula Yates, Holland helped to highlight countless new musicians

and comedians. His role as champion of new and diverse music continues today with his popular BBC series Later...With Jools Holland, on which established and more obscure artists have the chance to shine. The programme's Hootenanny is now a regular part of New Year's Eve celebrations, as unmissable as his live performances.

His highlights as an interviewer include a rare meeting with jazz legend Miles Davis in 1986 and Holland bears the unique honour of having performed with musicians who have achieved success in every decade of the 20th century.

Holland has also contributed to the film industry, with appearances in Spice World and Me & Orson Welles, and collaborated with Eddi Reader on tracks for the latter film. As a presenter he has fronted documentaries on American music and interviewed some of his own heroes, such as Fats Domino, Dr John and Lee Dorsey.

For his multimillion-selling series of recordings Jools and Friends, Holland has worked with a diverse array of artists from Sting, George Harrison and Eric Clapton to Sugababes, KT Tunstall and Norah Jones.

The concert starts at 8pm and tickets cost £32.50. To book visit the website at www.margatewintergardens.co.uk or call the box office on 01843 292795/296111.



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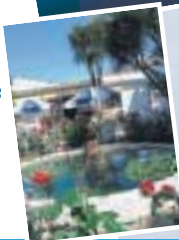
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SACCONI QUARTET

Friday, May 14 to Sunday, May 16,
St Mary & St Eanswythe's Church, Folkestone

EXPERIENCE the energetic and creative sound of the Sacconi Quartet as they return for their third annual Chamber Music Festival.

Renowned as one of Britain's leading young string quartets, the Sacconi Quartet presents the festival in association with the Creative Foundation.

Not only do they provide a series of concerts, the Quartet also takes part in outreach activities such as school workshops, family concerts and projects in prisons, refugee centres and care homes.

With the theme Tales of Bohemia, this year's festival fea-



tures works by Czech composers such as Janacek, Smetana, Suk and Dvorak. Their special guests include pianist Alisdair Beatson, violinist Jiri Zigmund and the Badke Quartet.

One highlight will be a performance of Janacek's second quartet, Intimate Letters, with a new literary overture by playwright Justin Pearson. Based on Janacek's love letters to his muse, Kamila Stösslová, the overture will be performed by actor Timothy West.

For full programme details visit www.sacconi.com/festival or call the Quarterhouse box office on 01303 858500.



FALCONRY DISPLAYS

Every Sunday, Doddington Place Gardens, Doddington

VISITORS now have even more to enjoy at Doddington Place Gardens since the arrival of some special new residents.

Birds of prey can now be seen in the skies above the property, since a group of the stunning creatures moved to Doddington from Leeds Castle. The birds are owned and managed by The Hawking Centre and the new arrivals will offer even more interest for visitors.

Every Sunday at 3pm, visitors can enjoy a falconry demonstration and learn more about these fascinating creatures, as well as witnessing them in graceful

flight. Doddington Place resident Amicia Oldfield spoke of her delight at seeing the birds of prey as they dive and swoop.

"The birds seem to be very well-trained," she said. "The tea room is just next to the place where they do the display, but I'm glad to say we haven't had any buzzards swooping down upon the chocolate cake."

Doddington Place Gardens are open from 2-5pm, every Sunday and bank holiday Monday until the end of September. Adult tickets cost £5.

Find out more at www.doddingtonplacegardens.co.uk.

1940S WEEKEND

Saturday, May 15 and Sunday, May 16
Kent & East Sussex Railway, Tenterden

ALL aboard for a journey into the past as Kent and East Sussex Railways holds its annual 1940s event this weekend.

Discover what life was like in wartime Kent as passengers are shown how the railway's stations might have looked more than 60 years ago. With authentic 40s features such as sand bags and taped windows, the stations will be peopled by spivs, policemen and other wartime characters. Military and civilian vehicles will be on display and the Fire Service Preservation Society will demonstrate how the service dealt with blazes during World War Two.

Entertainment includes performances by 40s singer Fiona Harrison and toe-tapping dance demonstrations by the Cinque Port Lindy Hoppers, who will be grooving away in period costume on both days. There will be displays by the Lashenden Air Museum and the Hawker Hurricane Society, along with stalls showing custom-made 40s and 50s clothing and Cinque Ports Militaria.

For more information about the 1940s event, timetables and ticket prices, call 01580 765155 or visit the website at www.kesr.org.uk.



MARK WATSON

Friday, June 4, Brake Hall, Ashford School,



ONE of the country's fastest rising comedians will be paying a visit to Ashford ahead of his nationwide tour this autumn.

Mark Watson is one of the most likeable characters on the comedy scene and his career is continuing to go from strength to strength. His appearances on television shows like Mock the Week and Michael McIntyre's Comedy Roadshow have spread his appeal even wider than the stand-up circuit, along with his adverts for Magners Pear Cider.

Watson began his comedy career in 2002 and immediately made a big impression, winning that year's Daily Telegraph Open Mic Competition. He went on to stage hugely successful shows at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe, with his third visit resulting in sold-out performances every night of the run. As his profile rises, Watson has appeared at bigger and bigger events, such as hosting the NME Awards and appearing at the O2 Arena as part of Channel 4's Comedy Gala for Great Ormond Street Hospital.

Tickets cost £12.50 and can be booked by calling 0871 220 0260 or visiting www.seetickets.com.



JANETTE GERI

Sunday, May 16, Granville Theatre, Ramsgate



WITH her unforgettable voice and remarkable talent, Janette Geri is a performer who leaves a great impression on all her audiences.

Fans love her for the warmth she brings to her performances, along with her wicked sense of humour that gives concerts an added spark. Teamed with her mastery of the acoustic guitar, Geri possesses soaring vocals that captivate audiences and can evoke a wide variety of moods.

Showing a genius flair for interpretation, Geri is a very capable solo performer who is sure to give an unforgettable performance for her fans in Thanet.

With two new albums to showcase, Geri shows her versatility by performing both the old and new.

Telling Tales is a collection of traditional Celtic songs, reworked with Geri's contemporary touch, while The Bastard's Daughter features new original songs that take the listener on an intimate journey, exploring the path that leads us from loss to liberation. Both albums have attracted acclaim for the quality of her arrangements, vocals and musical textures.

The concert starts at 7.30pm and tickets cost £10/£9. To book call the box office on 01843 591750.



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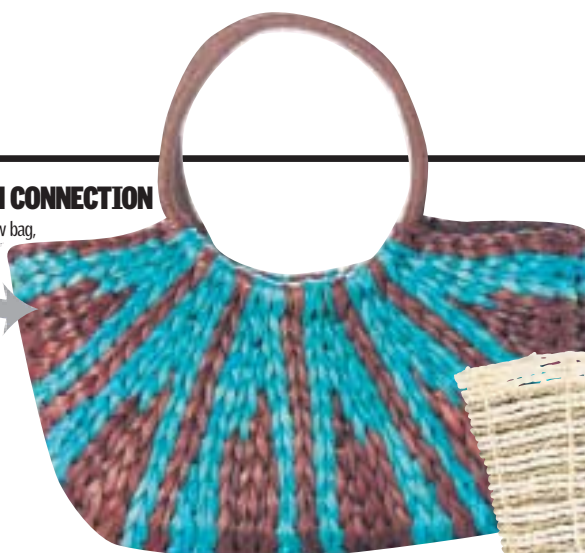


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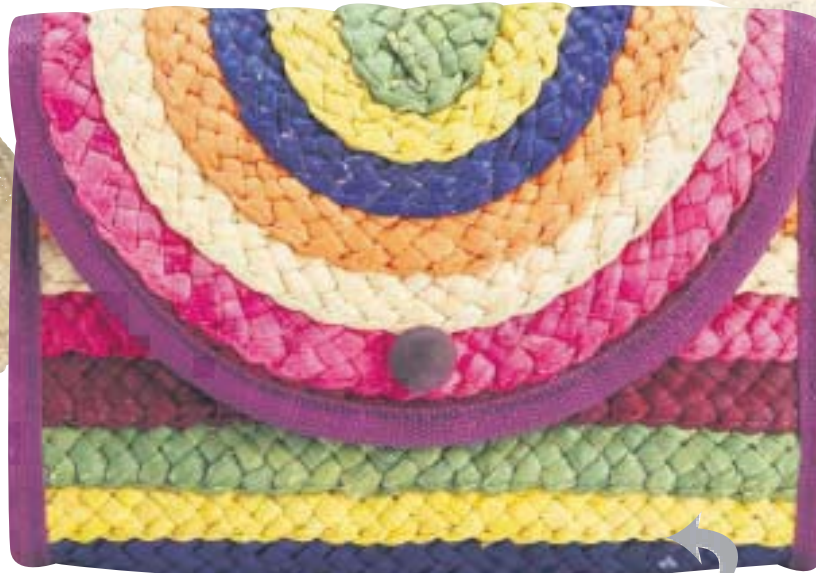
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WOMEN seeking men

WAITING FOR YOU Oriental single mum, 25, easy-going, looking for a nice guy, similar age, for lasting happiness. Box 851890

ARE YOU HER MAN OF THE MATCH? Fun-to-be-with, football-loving, blonde female, 25, 5ft2, enjoys going out and staying in, looking for a like-minded man, to be her soulmate. Box 446494

THE ART OF THE MATTER 27-year-old female, 5ft8, medium-curved build, N/S, enjoys reading, painting, cinema, walks, W/LTM tall, attractive male, 23-32, for friendship, maybe LTR. Box 442644

STEP UP TO THE OCHE WITH ME! Blue-eyed brunette, 27, 5ft1, loves films, walking, darts, pool, singing, me time! Looking for honest guy with GSOH, to get to know. Box 880105

FANCY A CUDDLE? Loving single mum, 29, shoulder length black hair, brown eyes, 5ft3, slim and sexy, part-time carer, looking for reliable, loving male. Canterbury. Box 464326

IS ANYONE OUT THERE? 31yr old easygoing, independent female, W/LTM cuddly fella to enjoy the finer things in life with, leading to LTR with the right person. Box 879931

COULD I BE THE ONE? Single mum, 33, divorced, looking to meet a male who enjoys walking, going out, time in and out and much more. Maidstone. Box 464835

HORSES FOR COURSES... Caring, loving, affectionate female, 30, 5'2", blonde, likes walking, horse riding, animals, seeks affectionate male, 30-40, for lasting, loving relationship. Box 384013

FOOTLOOSE AND FANCY FREE Curvy brunette, 35, with green eyes, 5ft3, no ties, looking for an affectionate, and caring non-smoking guy to put the sparkle back into my life! Ashford. Box 849706

SHREK'S APPEAL! Princess Fiona, 34, looking to meet her Shrek. 5ft8, short brown/blonde hair, blue eyes, large build, seeks romantic caring guy for friendship, maybe more! Box 877957

HAPPY DAYS! Attractive, fun-loving female, 35, 5'4", size 12, dark hair with blonde highlights, tactile, W/LTM intelligent, professional, attractive guy, for a happy relationship. Tunbridge Wells. Box 308734

FEAST YOUR EYES ON ME... Hello I'm Andrea, 35, petite 5ft3, shoulder length curly hair. I enjoy eating out, cinema and I'm looking for friendship and possible long term relationship. Box 453039

SEALED WITH A KISS Petite lady, 36, long hair, blue eyes, single mum, enjoys holidays, wine and dining, walking, seeks loving, loyal man for friendship and more. Box 453079

GROW OLD WITH ME Single mum, 37yrs old, slim build, honest, kind and caring. I'm looking for LTR, love and romance with nice guy in Maidstone area. Box 860164

LOVE TO LOVE YOU Lovely female, 36, 5'4", medium/large build, blonde hair, blue eyes, own house, loves walking, going out, the usual! Seeking male for long-term/serious relationship. Box 438102

PUT A SMILE ON MY FACE Mum of three, 38, long mousey hair, blue eyes, interested in historical places, music, eating out, seeks kind, caring, genuine male, 36-49, non-smoker, for LTR. Box 440693

MAGIC IN MARGATE Loving female, 36, 5ft4, brown hair, green eyes, likes socialising, walking, seeks genuine male for friendship and more. Box 428666

FAMILY LIFE Fun to be with woman, 39, I love life, drinks in, walks, family life etc. Looking for a similar man in the Canterbury area. Box 467392

FAMILY ORIENTATED Eastbourne based woman, 39, 5ft8, slim/medium build. I'm a single mum, and enjoy cooking, music, family life. If you like the same, get in touch! Box 464034

DON'T LET ME DOWN Pretty, black female, 38, 5ft4, like football, socialising and cooking, looking for a loving and caring male, 38-42, for a LTR. Box 446684

SHOW ME HEAVEN Black lady, 38yr old, enjoys swimming, films and bird watching. Fairly new to the area. With a male for friendship and maybe romance. Box 441608

CUTE AS CAN BE Cute single mum of four, 38, Kent-based, into most things, looking for friendship, possibly romance. Box 897983



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Mobile: Register your number with us & send by MMS to 07786 203 777. Enter P2P as subject. MMS - network charges apply.

HAPPINESS, THE GREATEST GIFT... Shy female, 40, 5ft9, blue eyes, short blonde hair, medium build, loves going out, wine and dining, holidays; seeking likewise gentleman to be happy with. Box 446763

A NICE BOTTLE OF WINE Lovely, glossy brunette, 33yr old, petite, bubbly and loving, enjoys theatre, music and eating out, with a professional, loving and tactile male for a relationship. Box 442551

FOR A RELATIONSHIP? Shy but confident-one known female, a mum, 40, likes socialising, tennis, walks, swimming; seeks gent with similar interests to find hopeful love with. Box 452106

CALL ME Single, Asian lady, 41, living in Tunbridge Wells. I'm easygoing and fun loving and W/LTM single male to spend time with. Box 465481

MANY INTERESTS Hi, I'm based in Ashford and I'm looking for a nice guy in the area. I'm a single mum, 42 and enjoy cooking, and cosy nights. Box 468148

IT COULD BE US Professional, single woman, 42, easygoing and fun to be with, seeking a single, professional, solvent white male, 44-52 Tunbridge Wells. Box 798931

BE MY FRIEND AND PARTNER Hi there, I'm female, 43, 5ft6, medium build, long dark hair/green eyes. I enjoy cinema, eating out etc and W/LTM genuine, caring, loving male. Chatham. Box 466612

DOES THIS SOUND LIKE YOU? Single mum, 42, from Ashford, 5ft9, dark hair/eyes, likes wine bars, pubs, days out and keeping fit, looking for a caring and fun-loving gent, 5ft9+. Box 461129

FREE AD placement, call: 0808 156 5339
(Calls are free; mobile rates may vary; check with your provider)

COLLECT your messages: 0906 550 4335
(Calls cost £1/min; contact your service provider for details)

NEW TO THIS Attractive single mum of 2, 43yrs old, 5ft1, medium build, GSOH, likes cooking, spending time with family & animals. W/LTM fun loving, kind, genuine man. Kent. Box 855182

LIVE LIFE TO THE FULL Good-looking brunette from Kent, 43, 5ft10, likes bowling, eating in/out etc. Looking for a good-looking guy, 35-45, with gsoh for friendship/relationship. Box 450348

ANOTHER CHAPTER Hard working PA, 43, single mum, grey-green-blue eyes, loves socialising and enjoying life, seeks loyal, honest male to find love with. Sittingbourne. Box 461037

HOW YOU DOING? Attractive, curvy single mum, 44, kind, genuine, loyal and loving, seeking a man with similar qualities to share my life with. St Leonards-on-Sea. Box 459128

GET CLOSE Funny, cheerful lady, 44, 5'6", curly hair, very social, likes walks and pubs. Looking for a cuddly and outgoing man for a close relationship. Faversham. Box 467518

GENUINE REPLIES ONLY Bubbly female, 44, brunette, n/s, medium/large build, enjoys singing and theatre. Would love to meet a decent fun-loving guy, similar age, pref non-smoker for LTR. Box 445955

POSSIBLE LTR African lady, full figured and radiant! I'm a Christian, 46, 5ft5, attractive, caring and intelligent and enjoy jazz, travel, theatre. W/LTM decent, white male, Gillingham. Box 466617

COME ON OVER Fun-loving girl, 47, dark hair/eyes, attractive, looking for a similar male to enjoy nights out and good conversation. Rainham. Box 854480

GENIE IN A BOTTLE Slim blue-eyed blonde, 47, 5ft4, attractive lover with no ties, very sociable, non-smoker, loves the countryside, seeking easygoing companion and soulmate. Box 468120

YOUNG AT HEART Young 46, attractive, fun-loving female, looking for fit, handsome, intelligent, full of fun, sexy, worldly man to share everything that life has to offer. Box 884113

NOTHING VENTURED... Humble lady, 47, GSOH, down to earth, non-smoker, enjoys life, likes meals and days out, seeks a life-loving guy to enjoy a meal with. Rochester. Box 466286

ENJOY LIFE TO THE FULL Young-looking 46yr old female, 5ft4, slim, blonde, non-smoker, affectionate, loyal, caring, seeking a male, 40-45, up to 5ft7, to share life with. Ashford/Maidstone area please. Box 461938

NORMAL GAL Happy, 5ft7, looking for genuine man, laughter, sincerity, smart, kind, tall honest man, age under 48 and over 30 at must. Maidstone. Box 866380

ARE YOU THE ONE FOR ME? Caring, cute female, 46, petite, likes socialising, dancing, travelling, good food, seeking intelligent, loyal man 42-52 for love and TLC. Seaford. Box 444366

HELP ME OPEN UP Easygoing lady, 46, dark brown hair/blue eyes, medium build, likes life, socialising, the seaside, walks, drinks, W/LTM male to share a bottle of wine with. Box 444585

DREAM LOVER Petite blonde, young 49, loving, caring, enjoy music, walking, theatre dining in/out, looking for friendship and more with a genuine, caring and honest man. Rochester. Box 854822

MAKE IT ENJOYABLE Pretty, young-looking, slender woman, 49, dark-haired seeks reliable gentleman, 25-49 for a loving relationship. Rochester. Box 460686

ANY TAKERS? Divorced single lady, 49, 5ft4, animal lover, happy go lucky, likes quiet drinks and cinema, looking for a man for friendship, maybe a LTR. Ashford. Box 464557

BY MY SIDE Curvy woman, 49, 5ft10, I enjoy being by the sea, music, walks, meals out, cinema, cross-words, and reading. Seeking kind, caring man in the Maidstone area. Box 466608

ARE YOU LOVING AND CARING? Young 48 year old, loving, caring, very bubbly, 5ft5, medium build, blonde, blue eyes, likes clubs, cinema, eating out, cosy nights, good company. Box 434089

JUST IMAGINE Petite, brunette, bubbly, friendly, easygoing single mum, 49, enjoys cinema, eating out, socialising, most things, W/LTM genuine male, to see where life takes us! Box 893562

DON'T PASS ME BY Petite brunette, 51, 5ft, likes live music, pubs and socialising, gsoh, seeking a like-minded male for a serious relationship. Hastings. Box 467807

HERE AND NOW Outgoing lady, 50, enjoys walks along the beach, nights out and in with a quiet bottle of wine, seeks man to love forever. Box 449524

LOVELY BUBBLY Short 51yr old professional lady, likes history, films and reading, seeking a genuine gent, 45-58, with gsoh to enjoy evenings out, stimulating conversations and fun. Box 452311

WRITTEN IN THE STARS Late 40's woman, slim, quite active, attractive, enjoy walks, picnics, the countryside, TV dramas, seeking a Pisces or Scorpio or Cancer male. Brighton. Box 468610

IT COULD BE US Happy-go-lucky lady, 53, 5ft3, slim, blonde-brown hair, blue eyes looking for a tall, honest guy, for love and laughter and happy times. South Kent. Box 464601

LOVE AND LAUGHTER AND HAPPY TIMES Petite woman, 53, with blonde/brown hair and blue eyes, 5'3", enjoys socialising, walking, cinema and generally having fun with a tall, honest man. Gillingham. Box 858610

YOU DON'T KNOW UNTIL YOU CALL... Young-looking, hard-working 53yr old living in East Sussex. I am a happy, caring person with a good sense of humour. Non-smoker. Heathfield. Box 883410

QUALITY TIME 55 year old lady, 5ft8in, blonde hair, blue eyes, GSOH, quite fit, enjoys the outdoors, lots of walking, politics, family time with the right man. Box 848381

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REPLY by Text
You can choose to text the member's 6-digit box number followed by a space, then your message (max of 160 characters) and send to 82250 e.g. 654321 Hi my name is... Standard network rates apply to send messages. Successfully forwarded messages cost £1.50 per message.

SMART MOVE Spontaneous, friendly, lively female, 55, likes cinema, walking, cooking, socialising, seeks similar person for friendship leading to hopefully more. Box 430854

MUST LOVE ANIMALS Light-hearted lady, 57, light hair, blue eyes, 5ft3, enjoys baking, gardening and DIY, seeks romantic non-smoker for romance. Rochester. Box 468691

LET'S SEE WHAT HAPPENS! Smart petite lady, 56, 5ft4, tall, blonde hair, green eyes, likes restaurants, theatre, cinema, travel abroad; seeking happy guy with similar interests. Box 448795

DREAMS OF YOU Genuine, caring lady, late 50s, slim & young looking, looking for a loyal, considerate, N/S male for long term relationship. Box 448595

MUSIC TO MY EARS Hi my name's Christine, 59, 5'9", slim build, wear glasses, likes live music, theatre, playing darts, looking for slim build male, for friendship, possible more. Box 419914

WALKS ALONG THE COAST Honest & sincere female, 58, tall, GSOH, loves country pubs, coasts, cinema, seeking a man who's a match for me with GSOH for relationship. Box 441622

BE YOURSELF Outgoing lady, active, 60, tolerant, open-minded, loves life animals, and genuine people, seeks a sincere man for romance. Margate. Box 865760

BRIGHTENING UP Cuddly lady, 61, 5ft5, blonde, likes swimming, country pubs, cinema and much more. W/LTM tallish single man to hopefully brighten each others lives. Box 870214

HOMELY LADY Easygoing lady, 61, 5ft1, walks, cosy nights, pubs meals etc. I'm hoping to meet someone for friendship, and then we'll see. Folkestone. Box 469693

LOTS OF HUGS Positive woman, 60, independent but sociable, I'm 5ft4, red hair/green eyes, slim build. Hythe. I enjoy art and walks, seeking similar, intelligent man, lively, reliable. Box 464002

SIMPLE PLEASURES Hi there, I'm a 61yr old lady, blonde hair/green eyes, medium build. I love dancing, walking by the sea and W/LTM like minded gent. Box 459467

OUTGOING LADY Young looking lady, 62, 5ft6, blonde hair/hazel eyes. I have GSOH and like music, bowls, cinema country pubs. W/LTM man, 55-65 for friendship and more. Canterbury. Box 468269

START A NEW CHAPTER 64 year old widow, 5ft6, slim and fit, active and healthy, likes walks, theatre, gardening a social woman seeking similar non-smoking gent in Canterbury area. Box 467844

LOVE ME DO Loving and caring lady, 63, 5ft3, brown hair/eyes, likes me time, 40, not of many words, likes sports, music, reading and films, seeks company and companion. Snodland. Box 465333

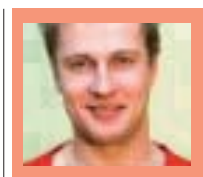
YOUNG LOOKING Sixty something, bubbly, outgoing, intelligent lady, looking for genuine friendship with like-minded male, love walks, talks, cinema, theatre or simply just chat. Maidstone. Box 799895

A TOUCH OF CLASS Professional woman, 73, smart and fun to be with, medium build, seeks an articulate, smart, independent man of class to share quality time. Kent. Box 468560

Women seeking women
MY HEART TO YOU 37 year old gay female from Kent, dark brown eyes, dark hair, loves the outdoors and fresh air, gardening, DIY, seeks feminine lady for love. Box 467298

LOVE TO LOVE Easygoing female, 40, blue eyes, blonde hair, medium build, likes wine, dining, socialising, holidays, walks cinema; seeking like-similar female for companionship and more. Box 446953

TAKE A CHANCE Honest female, 43, 5ft2, medium build, fun-loving, likes clubs, pubs, eating out, nights in, looking for a female for friendship to start, hopefully a LTR. Rochester Box 466078



MEN seeking women

FOR LOVE Hard-working male, 29, 5ft10, dark hair, brown eyes, medium build, plays harder! Likes going/leaving out, walks, pubs, loves life, seeking similar happy, trustworthy lady. Box 442752

FULL OF LIFE Ashford man, 35, I'm single, no ties, and looking for a similar woman. I'm 6ft6, with blue eyes/brown hair and enjoy pubs/clubs, eating out etc. Box 467416

BOTTLE OF WINE Hi there, I'm an easygoing male, 35, 5ft8, medium build, brown hair, I'm based in Brighton and enjoy seeing friends, drinks, cinema, walks. Box 450165

CAN YOU PUT UP WITH ME? Hi I'm 37, 6ft, blue eyes, brown hair and medium build, great cook and SOH, seeking similar lady to take out. Box 451503

HOP ON BOARD! Average bloke, 38, shy! Seeks young lady, looks unimportant, single mums welcome. I love gardening and riding my moped. Sittingbourne. Box 468095

THE GOOD LIFE Young looking male, 39, quiet guy, looking for a LTR and a reliable and football. Like together, with the right woman. Box 858113

LOVE TO LAUGH Looking for a love to earth green eyed lady. Must have a sense of humour and laugh at life's little surprises! I'm 39 with GSOH...Hastings. Box 862208

COME ON OVER TO MY PLACE Fun-loving male, 40, 6ft, short dark hair, brown eyes, enjoys most things in life, seeks slim female size 10-12 who's reasonably good looking. Box 456889

DO I ATTRACT YOU? Happy go lucky single dad, 40, looking for a slim female, -size 12, to share good times and happiness with. Hutton Box 457738

LOOK IN MY EYES Romantic, fun-loving man, 40, 6ft tall, with dark hair and brown eyes, looking for a kind, considerate and romantic female. Maidstone. Box 459006

IT'S WHAT'S INSIDE THAT COUNTS Loving and caring male, 40, 5ft8, medium build, average looks, seeks outgoing, loving, caring person to find love with. Canterbury. Box 458290

FISHING & CAMPING! Fun-loving male, 40, not of many words, likes sports, music, reading and films, seeks company and companion. Snodland. Box 465333

LOOKING FOR A BIRDIE! Hi there, I'm Chris, 38, in good shape, attractive, own place, hard working and honest, loves days out, golf, summer/looking for loving companion. Box 450317

MAKE YOUR MARK Hi I'm Mark, 40, 5ft8, brown hair, blue eyes, fit, not ugly, mature, honest, W/LTM someone trustworthy and caring. Box 448372

COME ON OVER Professional personal trainer, 42, 5ft10, green eyes, brown hair, athletic, seeking a female, 25-45, for fun times and friendship. Chatham. Box 468675

FUN & OUTGOING! Young at heart 44yr old male, stocky build, 5ft10, Kent based, father, honest and down-to-earth, likes music, nights in, walking the dog, seeks genuine lady. Box 851804

GOT A GOOD SENSE OF HUMOUR? Malcolm, 43, dark-haired, 5ft10, spent a long time on the shelf so looking for chats, friendship and maybe more with a film and music fan. Box 451581

BROWSE and listen line: 0906 753 3093
(Calls cost 75p/min; contact your service provider for details)

HELP required with service? 0871 220 9205
Live assistance, 2pm-5.30pm, Mon to Fri | Email: louise@g8wave.co.uk (Calls cost 10p/min; contact your service provider for details)

GSOH ESSENTIAL American male, 44, loves playing the guitar, looking for a decent female with a sense of fun about them. Brighton Box 461140

LOOKING FOR LOVE? Easygoing guy with wicked SOH, 45, 5ft11, slim-medium build, blue eyes and fair hair, loves animals, pubs and more, seeks loving lady for romance. E Sussex. Box 468369

CHEEK TO CHEEK Hard working gent, 45, slim, 6ft, looking for full time relationship with a cinema, bowling and film lover! Gillingham. Box 468396

MAKE A MOVE Single dad, 45, white, likes cooking, gardening, and a passion for Reggae music, seeking a black woman for friendship and romance. Folkestone area. Box 468542

MUSIC LOVER Richard here, I'm 45, very loving, and I like holidays, listening to music, theatre, cooking, cinema, museums and restaurants. You? Ashford. Box 467883

EASY TO LOVE Margate male, 46, tall and slim, easy-going, enjoy cinema, socialising and sport, looking for a decent lady, 40-55, for friendship and maybe a ltr. Box 468189

ONE OF THE GOOD GUYS Single guy, 47, 5ft8, been hurt in the past, works full time, looking for a Sussex-based lady to share life with. Kids not problem. Box 468082

MEET YOUR MATCH! Slim single dad, 47, works full time, looking for a slim/medium build lady, 25-50, children not a problem. Hobbies include, fishing, football, day and cooking. Dover. Box 462630

NEEDING LOVE 47yr old Brighton based man, own home/business, seeks genuine local lady aged 45-50 years to share it all with. Box 463623

TAKE MY HAND Genuine, honest man, 47, likes dining out, walking, looking to share the good life with a woman, 35-50, Deal, Kent. Box 460441

LOVE SHOULD BE EASY Laid-back single guy, 48, from Hythe, 6ft, slightly overweight/trying to lose it, seeking a fun to be around female to takes things slow with. Box 468498

GET BACK TO ME Good looking divorced man, 49, 6ft, likes keeping in shape, loves music and gigs; seeking slim lady, 30-40, relaxed, laid-back, for hopeful good relationship. Hythe. Box 460338

LOOKING FOR SOMEONE SPECIAL Ashford man, 54, brown hair/blue eyes, 5ft4, divorced-grown up daughter, enjoy walking, days in/out, quiet drink and football, looking for an educated female, 40-60. Box 465231

DANCING THROUGH LIFE Active and easy-going male, mid 50's, always tries to see the funny side of life, looking for a like-minded independent female. Box 464771

HAND IN HAND Easygoing man, 57, would like to meet someone to share good and bad times, finding that special person to be with soul mates. Box 861243

AROUND AND AROUND Active male, 59, dark hair, 5ft, keeps fit, cycles, seeking a cuddly, curvy, mature lady for friendship. Canterbury. Box 467423

TAKE A CHANCE Kent gent, 57, like music, socialising, cinema, fishing and holidays abroad, looking for a wonderful lady, 50-60, for friendship and romance. Cranbrook. Box 468651

ONWARDS & UPWARDS Early 50s widower, very honest and genuine, loves rock music, violin player, great cook, school worker, just hoping to meet someone. Langley. Box 468690

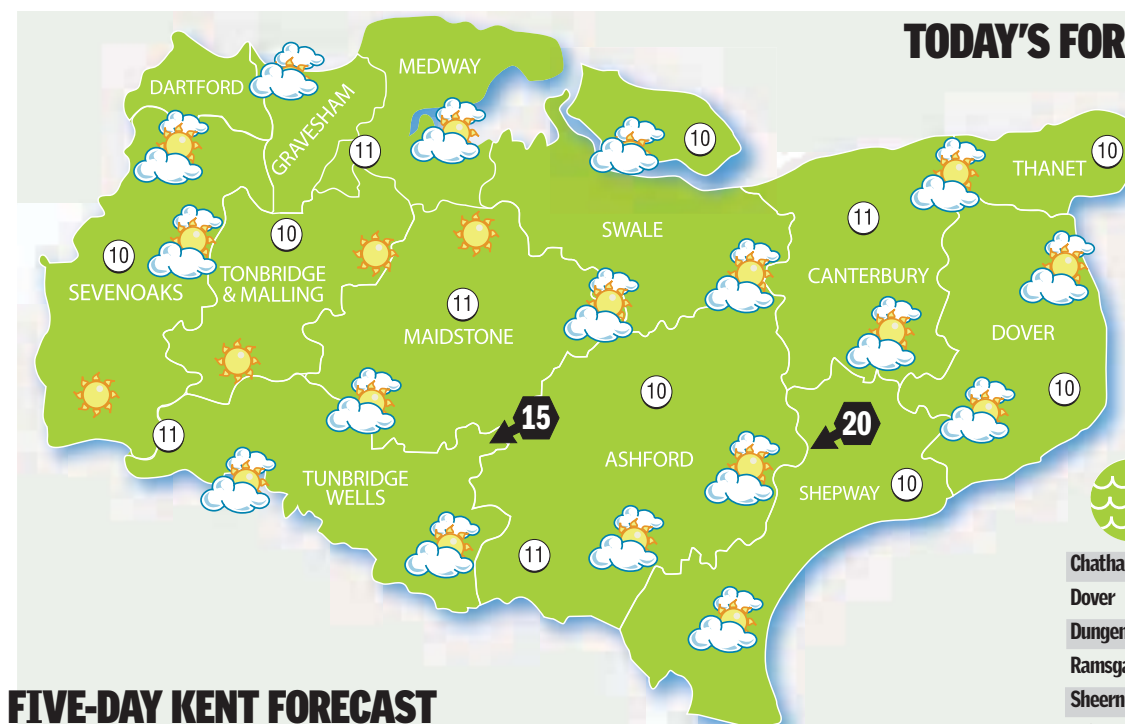
GET TOGETHER Divorced male, 59, 5ft8in, slim with grey hair, likes gardening, fishing, cycling, walks, cooking, going out, travel, seeks a fun and similar woman. Aylesford. Box 468615

HELLO THERE! Sociable lad, 59, from Ashford, enjoy motor racing, films and watching television, looking for a lady to share the good things in life with. Box 465607

CONSIDER THIS Professional male, 50s, likes live music, eating in and out, W/LTM slim female, to share interests together. Sittingbourne. Box 453535

A NICE WALK? Genuine chap, 60, medium build, brown hair/eyes. I enjoy socialising, pub meals, walking, cycling and I'm looking for lady with similar interests. Margate area. Box 467429

SINCERE male, 55, seeks genuine, loving female for friendship and possible relationship. Box



TODAY'S FORECAST






AROUND THE WORLD YESTERDAY

Amsterdam	9°C	Madrid	15°C
Athens	24°C	New York	11°C
Barcelona	19°C	Paris	14°C
Beijing	23°C	Rome	21°C
Bombay	33°C	Sydney	23°C
Cape Town	17°C	Tenerife	24°C
Cardiff	13°C	Tokyo	22°C
Gibraltar	18°C	Vancouver	17°C
Hong Kong	24°C	Warsaw	17°C
Las Palmas	23°C	Wellington	17°C

KENT'S WEEKEND HIGH TIDES

Chatham	Saturday	2:28pm 6.0m	Sunday	3:06pm 5.9m
Dover	Saturday	12:33pm 6.4m	Sunday	1:16pm 6.5m
Dungeness	Saturday	12:42pm 7.5m	Sunday	1:19pm 7.6m
Ramsgate	Saturday	1:03pm 4.9m	Sunday	1:46pm 4.9m
Sheerness	Saturday	2:18pm 5.7m	Sunday	2:56pm 5.7m
Whitstable	Saturday	2:14pm 5.1m	Sunday	2:54pm 5.1m

FIVE-DAY KENT FORECAST

	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon											Whitstable					Saturday	2:14pm 5.1m		Sunday	2:54pm 5.1m			
Ashford	11°C	12°C	14°C	15°C	16°C	Dover	9°C	10°C	11°C	13°C	14°C	Gravesend	12°C	12°C	14°C	15°C	16°C	Sevenoaks	10°C	11°C	11°C	13°C	14°C		SUNRISE	508am	SUNSET	8.37pm
Canterbury	10°C	11°C	12°C	14°C	15°C	Faversham	10°C	11°C	12°C	13°C	15°C	Maidstone	12°C	12°C	13°C	14°C	16°C	Sittingbourne	10°C	11°C	12°C	13°C	15°C					
Chatham	10°C	11°C	12°C	13°C	15°C	Folkestone	9°C	10°C	11°C	13°C	14°C	Ramsgate	10°C	11°C	12°C	14°C	15°C	Tonbridge	11°C	12°C	14°C	14°C	16°C		MOONRISE	351am	MOONSET	7.19pm
Dartford	12°C	12°C	14°C	15°C	16°C	Gillingham	10°C	11°C	12°C	13°C	15°C	Rochester	10°C	11°C	12°C	13°C	15°C	Tun Wells	11°C	12°C	14°C	14°C	16°C					


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yourcompetition

DWAYNE Johnson is the Tooth Fairy, also known as Derek Thompson, a hard-charging hockey player whose nickname comes from his habit of separating opposing players from their bicuspids.

When Derek discourages a youngster's dreams, he's sentenced to one week's hard labour as a real tooth fairy, complete with the requisite wings and magic wand. At first, Derek "can't handle the tooth" – bumbling and stumbling as he tries to furtively wing his way through strangers' homes... doing what tooth fairies do. But as Derek slowly adapts to his new position, he begins to rediscover his own forgotten dreams.

One of today's most popular actors, Dwayne Johnson's juxtaposition of sharp comedic timing and impressive physicality has delighted audiences in pictures like *The Game Plan*, *Get Smart* and *Race to Witch Mountain*. His latest effort, *Tooth Fairy*, brings together several elements he thought would be fun to explore. "It's a story with universal appeal," says Johnson. "It's a fish-out-of-water tale about believing in the impossible and the magic. It's for families and everyone."

"The Tooth Fairy is part of our culture and part of the wonderment of being a child. It's a character that's never been explored, to this extent, in the movies."

To most of the world, the Tooth Fairy is a magical figure. Like Santa Claus and the Easter Bunny, the Tooth Fairy is both an inspiring and comforting character who teaches children to use their imaginations – and to dream. And while there are no definitive renderings, most of us envision the Tooth Fairy as a gentle sprite

WIN! Tooth Fairy goodies TEN sets to giveaway...

who magically appears during a child's slumbers to take his or her newly-displaced tooth from under the pillow and replace it with money.

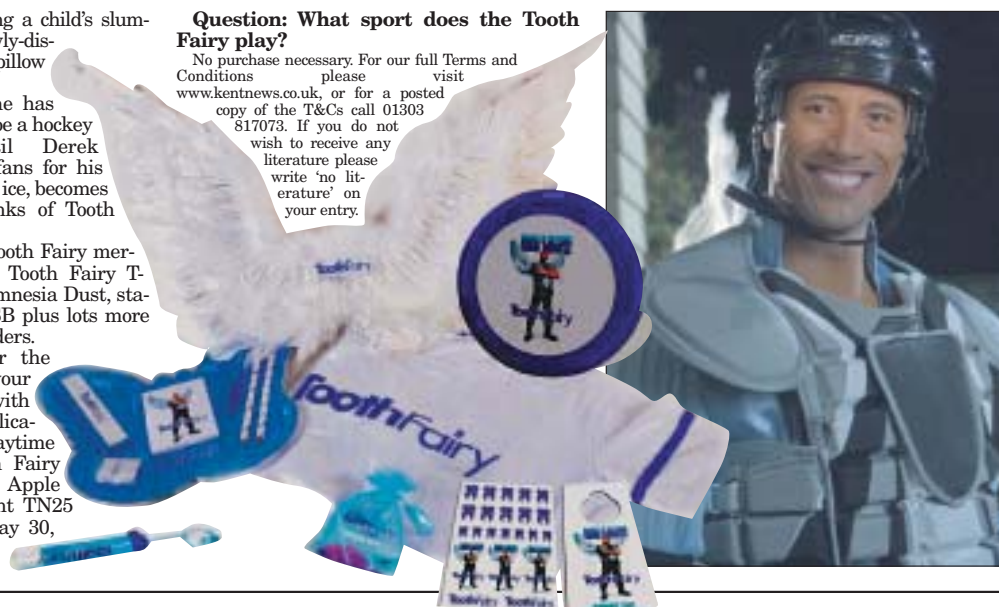
It's a safe bet that no one has imagined the Tooth Fairy to be a hockey player/enforcer – until Derek Thompson, beloved by his fans for his hyper-aggressive play on the ice, becomes the newest addition to ranks of Tooth Fairydom.

Yourlocal has ten sets of Tooth Fairy merchandise, which includes a Tooth Fairy T-shirt, Frisbee, toothbrush, Amnesia Dust, stationery set, tooth-shaped USB plus lots more to giveaway to ten lucky readers.

To enter, simply answer the question below and send your entry on a postcard along with your email address (if applicable), name, address, and daytime telephone number to Tooth Fairy Competition, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR. The closing date is May 30, 2010.

Question: What sport does the Tooth Fairy play?

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yourmusic

Lounge favourites to headline folk stage



SWINGING TRIO: Kitty, Daisy and Lewis will headline the the LOTF folk stage

■ BY SIMON ROBINSON

SWING siblings Kitty, Daisy and Lewis have been unveiled as Lounge on the Farm's folk stage headliners.

The London-based trio were hand-picked to top the Farm Folk tent by curators from the celebrated Flowerpot venue in Camden.

Also on the bill are Johnny Flynn, Peggy Sue, Beans on Toast, Lu Lu & The Lampshades and Medicine Show.

A Lounge spokesman said: "Camden's celebrated Flowerpot venue will be transporting their widespread reputation for showcasing quality music from their famous London haven to Merton Farm on Saturday 10th July to host the Farm Folk stage.

"With headliners and firm LOTF favourites Kitty, Daisy and Lewis already announced, the Flowerpot line-up will also include violin-fuelled goodness from Johnny Flynn, who will be celebrating the release of his forthcoming Been Listening album, much admired Wichita Recordings signed Brighton folksters Peggy Sue, country-rock sextet the Barker Band, pop-flavoured vaudeville from Alan Pownall and pure and primal rabble rousing from The Agitator."

Among the Lounge headliners are Motown greats Martha Reeves & The Vandellas, ska legends Toots & The Maytals, The Crazy World of Arthur Brown, DJ Yoda and Courtney Pine.

Lounge promoters are promising their fifth year will be the biggest and best yet.

The spokesman added: "With increased capacity, this year's Lounge On The Farm looks set to be the finest yet.

"We have a medley of musical pleasures – from local heroes and the next big things to the truly legendary – spread across seven stages, plus incredible comedy, theatre, burlesque and vaudeville treats, the kids' Little Lounge area and some of the most refined, locally sourced, rustic

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Belleville perform For You (Forever Young) in Canterbury.



Jus' Ben covers Keane's modern classic Everybody's Changing.



TOP FIVE KENT GIGS

- 1 Craig Sheridan – Times Change (from Deal)
- 2 Shelta – Beautiful Girl (from Bexley)
- 3 Ron Bowdery – The Hooray Henries (from New Eltham)
- 4 Flipswitch – Position Politician (from Whitstable)
- 5 Gristlebridge – Wanna be Famous (from Whitstable)

refreshments to be found at any festival anywhere."

LOTF takes place at Merton Farm, Canterbury, from Friday, July 9, to Sunday, July 11.

A weekend adult ticket costs £95. Day tickets cost £40 for adults, £30 for youths and £20 for children.

For more information visit www.loungeonthefarm.co.uk

FARM FOLK LINE-UP: Kitty, Daisy & Lewis, Johnny Flynn, Peggy Sue, Barker Band, Alan Pownall, The Agitator, Beans on Toast, Rum Shebeen, The Musical Difference, Lu Lu & The Lampshades, Handshake, The Joke & The Thief, Medicine Show.



SEASIDE SPECTACULAR: Views from the Bournemouth Eye are stunning. Poole home to Sunseeker, builders of multi-millionaires' yachts

yourgetaways

Take a fresh look at top UK holiday destination

■ BY GARY WRIGHT

RECESSION and an Icelandic volcano have given a massive boost to the UK's tourism industry as Brits rediscover the brilliance of their homeland.

Bournemouth could not have picked a better time to emerge as one of the UK's top holiday resorts.

A long weekend seemed an ideal opportunity to find out why a resort once seen as quaint has not so much reinvented itself, as simply moved with the times in a way any number of British seaside towns have failed.

It is a leading destination for water sports fans – including surfing, water-skiing, diving and jetskiing – as well as having almost 10 miles of sandy beaches.

Boscombe to the east has Europe's first artificial surf reef (and beach 'pods' designed by Wayne Hemingway) and to the west Poole sits on the largest natural harbour in Europe – that means sheltered water and a fascinating history.

Bournemouth town centre and sea front on a late April weekend bustled with shoppers, families and students as bands played in the Lower Gardens – the place had a real buzz.

Eating out is a magnificent adventure with 400 restaurants and bars on offer, and I think we got lucky.

The Print Room, right opposite my hotel in the town centre, held a special interest for me situated as it is in the room where the press had lived for the town's evening paper.

Three years ago it was transformed into a 1930s-style eatery, with wooden seating booths complete with a mirror-backed bar, Swarovski chandeliers and a black-and-white chequered floor.

The food was excellent and, as one critic said, it is one of the south coast's best kept secrets.

The following day we enjoyed lunchtime cocktails and a superb Thai-style meal in the Aruba, situated unexpectedly through a doorway at the front of Bournemouth pier.

Climb a few stairs and you will be

KEY FACTS: BOURNEMOUTH AND POOLE

Beaches	10 Miles, sandy
Watersports	Surfing, skiing... everything
Eating Out	400 restaurants and bars
Hotels	200, all prices, plus 200 B&Bs
Nightlife	Dozens of clubs



- Gary Wright was a guest of www.coastwiththemoost.com.
- He stayed two nights at the Norfolk Royale Hotel in Bournemouth which costs around £289 for two including breakfast.
- www.norfolk-royale-hotel.com
- Use the distinctive yellow taxis to get around and night buses run between Bournemouth and Poole.
- The excellent Russell-Cotes Art Gallery and Museum is free entry. Recommended
- For a relaxed break, take a cruise from anywhere along the coast. www.dorsetcruises.co.uk
- In Bournemouth's Lower Gardens, the tethered hot air balloon offers spectacular views from 500ft. Choose a clear day and it's £12 for adults.

surprised by the airy space offering seaviews, packed with diners.

Do take a few minutes to find it, most locals know it, a lot of visitors miss it. Recommended.

And that evening we had been directed to the newly reopened Ventana Brasserie, part of the stunning Art Deco-styled Cumberland Hotel, a short taxi ride from Bournemouth centre.

The food was ambitious but good (and very reasonably priced), the staff were courteous and the gorgeous décor was in keeping with the building. You could almost have been in a 1930s Hollywood musical set. But the plasma TV with Sky sports news ruined the effect, even with the sound turned down.

Now don't think this weekend was one long food festival. Oh no, we managed to pop into the Oceanarium (near the pier), and saw turtles, sharks and a lot of fish.

I loved it, kids will love it and its one to keep up your sleeve if the weather turns nasty.

We also found time for a trip on the Bournemouth Eye, a huge tethered helium balloon soaring to 500ft out of the Lower Gardens.

Views were spectacular, one of the signs I'm sure claimed 60 miles, but the sea mist curbed that a little.

By Sunday lunchtime we'd moved on to Poole. A different proposition from Bournemouth yet closely related. The old town really is, well, old with a sprinkling of little shops, yet still has the feel of a working harbour.

Then it was time to eat again: Sunday lunch at the Custom House, overlooking the quay and the world-famous Sunseeker boatyard (I use the term in the way one might call Wembley simply a football ground) which added glamour.

So replete, again (splendid three-course Sunday lunch) we wander around the Poole Pottery then relaxed with a quiet drink on the harbour front and reflected this part of Britain offers so much... and it's only a couple of hours drive from Kent.



KOS 19



**FREE
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OVER
40s ONLY**

Isle of Wight Christmas Party at Warner Norton Grange

Norton Grange is a friendly Warner Resort situated on the Isle of Wight coast just outside Yarmouth. Join us for a fun-filled **Christmas Party** - for over 40s only - featuring cabaret and variety entertainment and more. Get into the festive spirit with good food and great entertainment - and a **Free Bar** every day - perfect for a pre-Christmas get together.

PRICE INCLUDES:

- **FREE drinks** from 15.30hrs to 23.00hrs on Friday and 12.00hrs to 23.00hrs on Saturday & Sunday. Drinks include tea/coffee, pumped soft drinks & mixers, wine by the glass, house beers & spirits.
- **Full programme of variety entertainment and activities**
- **Meals:** 3 dinners and 3 breakfasts
- **Accommodation:** 3 nights sharing a twin or double bedded en-suite chalet - upgrades available
- **Leisure facilities:** Indoor pool, sauna, jacuzzi
- **Travel:** Self drive with car ferry included

Friday, November
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Tour **NG11-2-KOS**

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ONLY**

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**SELF DRIVE
CAR FERRY INCLUDED**



**FREE
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OVER
50s ONLY**

Mamma Mia Christmas Party at Warner Bembridge, Isle of Wight

Join us for an early Christmas Party on the Isle of Wight for over 50s only. Warner's luxurious Bembridge Coast Hotel will resound to the sights and sounds of Abba as our fabulous party weekend includes a screening of Mamma Mia the Movie, an Abba Tribute Band playing live, a Free Bar every night and a Fireworks display. You're also assured of Warner's quality hallmark - great food, great entertainment and great facilities.

PRICE INCLUDES:

- **Free Bar** from 6pm to 11pm every day (not departure day) for house beers & spirits, wine by the glass, pumped soft drinks & mixers, tea & coffee
- **Variety Entertainment & Activities programme** including Abba Tribute Band & Mamma Mia movie screening
- **Meals:** 3 dinners & 3 breakfasts
- **Accommodation:** 3 nights sharing an en-suite Ambassador room - upgrades available
- **Leisure facilities:** Indoor pool, sauna
- **Travel:** Self drive with car ferry included

Friday, November
12 to 15, 2010
Tour **MM11-KOS**

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ONLY**

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OVER
40s ONLY**

Carry on New Year Party at Warner Sinah Warren

Here's an opportunity - for over 40s only - to extend the New Year celebrations at Sinah Warren, Warner's luxury hotel on Hayling Island. There'll be live entertainment every evening and, to help the party go with a swing, there's Free Drinks too. You can also expect the Warner hallmark of quality accommodation and great food - a varied breakfast menu and a 3-course dinner with a wide choice including a carvery.

PRICE INCLUDES:

- **FREE drinks** from 15.30hrs to 23.00hrs on Friday and 12.00hrs to 23.00hrs on Saturday & Sunday. Drinks include tea/coffee, pumped soft drinks & mixers, wine by the glass, house beers & spirits.
- **Full programme of entertainment & activities**
- **Meals:** 3 dinners and 3 breakfasts
- **Accommodation:** 3 nights sharing a twin or double bedded Ambassador room - upgrades available
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OVER
40s ONLY**

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Our Bembridge Dance breaks - for over 40s only - were a sell-out in 2009 & 2010 and, due to popular demand, we're doing it all again in 2011. There will be Ballroom and Latin dancing, dance tuition for beginners and improvers, top dancers in cabaret and a Grand Ball - dress up and dance the night away. And with an 8,860sq ft dance floor, dancers will not be short of space. There's plenty going on for non-dancers, and, there's Free Drinks too.

PRICE INCLUDES:

- **FREE drinks** from 15.30hrs to 23.00hrs on Friday and 12.00hrs to 23.00hrs on Saturday & Sunday. Drinks include tea/coffee, pumped soft drinks & mixers, wine by the glass, house beers & spirits.
- **Full programme of variety entertainment and dancing** including top dancers in Cabaret & dance tuition PLUS a Grand Ball
- **Meals:** 3 dinners and 3 breakfasts
- **Accommodation:** 3 nights sharing a twin or double bedded Ambassador room - upgrades available
- **Leisure facilities:** Indoor pool & sauna
- **Travel:** Self drive with car ferry included

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FROM
ONLY**

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ABTA Y0291

Iron Man 2 is not such a Marvel

■ BY DAMON SMITH

DIRECTOR Jon Favreau's first encounter with the Marvel Comics superhero was one of the most exhilarating diversions of the 2008 summer blockbuster season.

The film's heady conflation of dazzling special effects, playful performances and sizzling screen chemistry between Robert Downey Jr and Gwyneth Paltrow jet-propelled the film to gargantuan box office takings in excess of half a billion dollars.

Money talks loudly in Hollywood and so, inevitably, Favreau and most of his cast return for the sequel.

The weight of expectation on Iron Man 2 would test even the strength of the eponymous hero's red and gold armour and regrettably, the turbo-charged sequel misfires.

Screenwriter Justin Theroux struggles to integrate the new characters and to strike the same rumbustious tone as the first film.

However, he does incorporate several scenes of Nick Fury (Samuel L Jackson) which lay the groundwork for the forthcoming film of The Avengers featuring Iron Man, Captain America and The Incredible Hulk.

A brief sequence after the end credits continues to whet the appetite of ardent fans of the comics.

Billionaire industrialist Tony Stark (Robert Downey Jr) announces to the world that he is Iron Man and buoys his over-inflated ego with the adulation of the masses.

He single-handedly maintains world peace to the chagrin of the US government and private investors, who are keen to acquire his technology for their own needs.

Stark refuses to share his invention, causing a furore at a Senate Armed Services Committee run by Senator Stern (Garry Shandling). Soon after, Russian physicist Ivan Vanko (Mickey Rourke), whose father helped pioneer the Iron Man technology, creates a crude replica of the electromagnetic device in the industrialist's chest and transforms himself into the villainous Whiplash.

His attack on Stark during a grand prix compels the military to take action, seizing one of the suits.

Stark races to avert disaster aided by good friend 'Rhodey' (Don Cheadle), new secretary



SEQUEL: Scarlett Johansson, left, joins the cast of Iron Man 2, in which Robert Downey Jr plays the red and gold, arrogant but entertaining hero

There are a couple of cute one-liners – "Don't be mad. I'm fending off a Hammer-oid attack!" – but these are few and far between.

The rapport with Paltrow's sassy love interest energises several scenes and Rourke's tattooed villain is quietly compelling, destroying the myth of Iron Man because as he tells Stark, "If you can make God bleed then people will cease to believe."

Action scenes are slickly orchestrated but don't get the blood pumping and the final showdown is a huge anti-climax.

Like its egotistical central protagonist, the sequel feels tired.

Natalie Rushman (Scarlett Johansson) and chauffeur Happy Hogan (Jon Favreau).

Meanwhile, rival arms industrialist Justin Hammer (Sam Rockwell) concocts a plan to destroy Stark Industries, which is now under

the control of new CEO, Virginia 'Pepper' Potts (Gwyneth Paltrow).

Iron Man 2 is weighed down by the anguish of Downey Jr's inventor, who is being poisoned to death by the technology that keeps him alive.

IRON MAN 2 
Certificate 12A

PICTURE BBC



ARRESTED DEVELOPMENT: BBC's police drama Luther fails to bring anything new



YOUR TV REVIEW LUTHER: BBC One, 9pm, Tuesday

■ BY TOM BETTS

IDRIS Elba was in The Wire, which, in case you haven't heard is a legendary American cop show, that had critics frothing at the mouth with superlatives to describe its quality.

The imposing actor played the brooding, cerebral drug-dealer Stringer Bell and was one of the best TV characters of all time – no small praise there.

I never knew he was British until recently, which is a testament to just how well he carried off the role.

Not once did you hear him break into any accent other than that of Bell and he was utterly convincing.

The BBC obviously knew a good thing when they saw it, and snapped him up for Luther; its own big new cop drama. Here he very much takes centre stage, whereas in The Wire he was one of many who made up a terrific ensemble cast.

I usually avoid this kind of show like the plague, but thought I'd tune in on the strength of his casting.

The results are mixed, however.

Elba's performance is solid enough, but the show is too bogged down in clichés to really make much of an impression.

Like every TV cop with a maverick streak, John Luther has woman troubles, seems almost consumed by self-loathing and has flashback problems which give him a huge chip on his shoulder.

He broods a lot, too. He has a dark side, you see, and if you didn't see that coming a mile off then you should get down to Specsavers.

I accept that a cop drama might be hard going if the character was

whiter than white, but the same old plot devices come up time and time again.

Would it really be that hard to draw up something new, to make the character stand out from the crowd a bit?

The show is pretty nice to look at, and the streets of London are shot with panache, but was revealing the wrongdoer, before the plot unfolded, really a wise move?

Luther is not a disaster just a little unoriginal and by the book to really warrant too much praise.

There is certainly room for improvement and perhaps this will get better as we learn a bit more about why the character is the way he is.

Let's just hope for a few surprises along the way or this could tail off into just another cop show territory.

MOTORS NEWS



Audi baby meets small, but premium needs

ORDER books have opened on Audi's new premium baby car – the A1. It is smart and distinctive, in a sector increasingly important to well-heeled buyers.

Priced from £13,145 to £18,280, standard kit includes alloys, electronic stability control, electric mirrors and a six-speaker sound system with auxiliary/iPod connection. Power comes from turbocharged diesel and petrol units starting with a lively 86PS (84bhp) 1.2-litre that delivers a 0-62mph time of 11.7 seconds with 55.4mpg capability and low CO2 of 118g/km.



Peugeot sales boosted in its bicentennial year

APRIL saw another strong performance from Peugeot in the run up to its 200th anniversary in May.

While the overall UK car market reported an 11.5 per cent increase last month against April 2009, the French marque leapt 21.6, helped by a huge boost to sales of its HDi diesel models (+53.4).

Two of the other success stories were the Peugeot 3008 crossover (What Car? Car of the Year 2010) and the refined Peugeot 5008 (pictured and also What Car? MPV of the Year 2010).



Second edition Skodas are towing the Greeline

FOLLOWING facelifts for its Fabia supermini and Roomster MPV, Skoda Auto has unveiled Fabia Estate and Roomster GreenLine II versions.

These are second generation environmentally-friendly models from the Czech marque, with major changes including a new 1.2TDI diesel, start-stop technology and energy recuperation. The new engine delivers 83.1 mpg and CO2 emissions of 89 g/km in the Fabia estate version and 67.3 and 109 g/km respectively for the Roomster. Prices to be announced.



BEAUTY THAT'S A BEAST: Nissan's excellent 370Z represents superb value for money when compared to German sporty rivals such as the Audi TT, BMW Z4 and Porsche Boxster

Latest Z-Car continues to uphold proud legacy

NISSAN launched its original 'Z' sports coupé here in 1970's.

The dynasty has not always impressed like that debutante though – then known as a Datsun – but the beefy 2003 vintage 350Z marked an impressive return to form. And it made way last year for the excellent 370Z derivative tested here in flagship GT form.

This ticks open boxes left by its predecessor; nobody doubted the 350Z's value for money, but the newer car's cabin is closer to its £28,345 to £31,645 price band.

And while the 350Z appeared muscular, some saw it as porkiness; the 370Z is actually seven centimetres shorter yet looks more slim-waisted.

A rather intrusive bracing bar behind the 350Z's front seats has been lowered and camouflaged too, without affecting the stiffness of the car, which is also 32 kilos lighter.

But don't think the 'Z' has gone soft. The 328bhp 3.7-litre V6 – up from the 350Z's 309bhp – sounds brutal when challenged, revs cleanly (0-60mph in 5.3 seconds) yet feels refined and muted on a high-speed motorway dash.

Like its predecessor though, the 370Z can be

ROAD TEST NISSAN 370Z

■ BY STEVE LOADER

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Green rating	★★★★★

hard work in traffic, with its heavy clutch and a six-speed gearshift that can feel lumpy at low speeds – the seven-speed auto option might be preferable if you want more all-round ability.

However, the manual option does have Synchro Rev Control (SRC). Nissan calls this "the world's first fully synchronised down/up shift rev control system allowing drivers of any skill level to experience perfectly smooth gear shifts every time." I turned it off soon though, preferring to blip the throttle myself.

The wheelbase is slightly shorter than before, but the rear-driven coupé is well-balanced and the direct steering and lively engine – in both the revs and sound departments – make for an exciting drive. A predictable and well-controlled tendency to step out slightly on the corners make it a real enthusiast's car – especially with the SRC switched off.

It also represents superb value.

Obvious German rivals to the 370Z series – a lovely roadster is also available from £30,445 – are the Audi TT, BMW Z4 and the Porsche Boxster/Cayman.

The Nissan cannot have the same badge cachet, but for ability and standard spec at bargain prices, it must not be ignored.



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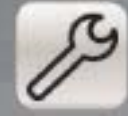
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Cash Price	Deposit	49 Monthly Payments	Weekly Equivalent	1 Final Payment
£9999	£675	£235	£54.23	£385
Total Amount Payable £12575*			APR 12.5%	

08 Ford Focus Hatchback 1.6 Zetec 5dr

Cash Price	Deposit	58 Monthly Payments	Weekly Equivalent	1 Final Payment
£9499	£1250	£180.80	£41.72	£330.80
Total Amount Payable £12067.20*			APR 11.9%	

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Cash Price	Deposit	48 Monthly Payments	Weekly Equivalent	1 Final Payment
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Total Amount Payable £8740.57*			APR 13.3%	

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KA, 1.3, 2006, abs brakes central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering, metallic blue, 33600 miles, £4000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

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KA, 1.3, 2008, cd player drivers airbag front fog lights metallic paint, blue, 50 miles, £14550, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

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SAAB 9-5 2.3T SE, 4 Doors, Automatic, Saloon, Petrol, 1999 V Reg, 102,000 miles, BLACK, MOT-02-2011, 4 Owners. Heated door mirrors, ABS, Radio/CD, Rear headrests, Cruise control, Folding rear seats, Alloy wheels, Immobiliser, Front electric windows, Electric door mirrors, Rear electric windows, Audio remote control, Front head restraints, Front fog lights, Passenger airbag, Remote central locking, Drivers airbag, Trip computer, Leather seat trim, Air conditioning, Adjustable steering column/wheel, Full Service History, Wood/wood effect trim, Anti theft system, Service indicator, Driver airbag, Park distance control, Leather upholstery, Head restraints, Computer, Alarm, Body coloured bumpers, Climate Control, Central locking, Front armrest, Headlight washers, Rear armrest, Radio/Cassette, PAS, Child locks. Insurance Group:14E,**£2,595 p/x poss**



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Day Two - The Hilton Brighton Metropole - Thursday, 10th June - 11am.

Day Three - The Ramada Hotel & Resort, Maidstone - Friday, 11th June - 11am.



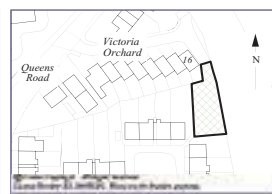
BARMING
Water Tower Conversion for Completion
Guide: £360-370,000



GOUDHURST
Period Village Semi for Restoration
Guide: £190-195,000



CRAYFORD
Timber Frame Bungalow for Redevelopment
Guide: £130-135,000



MAIDSTONE
Development Land for Four Flats
Guide: £115-120,000



RAINHAM
Two Semis - One Vacant, One Let
Guide: £125-130,000 & £135-140,000



CROCKENHILL, SWANLEY
Yard with B8 Use & Store Conversion
Guide: £40-45,000



CROCKENHILL, SWANLEY
16 Acres of Grazing Land
Guide: £160-165,000



ROCHESTER
Shop Plus Basement for Conversion
Guide: £60-65,000



STROOD
Takeaway Premises for Refurb.
Guide: £140-150,000



GRAVESEND
Ground Floor Flat for Improvement
Guide: £55-60,000



GOUDHURST
Church with Planning for Four Bed House
Guide: £180-200,000



GRAVESEND
High Yielding Commercial Investment
Guide: £420-440,000



CHATHAM
Three Flats for Refurbishment
Guide: £90-100,000



BOUGHTON MONCHELSEA
Vacant Paddock & Barn
Guide: £20-30,000



CHARING
Three Bedroom Semi for Refurb.
Guide: £180-190,000



HERNE BAY
Bungalow for Improvement
Guide: £70-80,000



DOVER
Four Storey House with Potential for Sub-division
Guide: £100-110,000



STURRY
Bungalow for Improvement
Guide: £180-200,000



WESTBROOK
House Arranged as Three Flats
Guide: £240-250,000



HERNE BAY
Shop with Planning for Two Units
Guide: £120-130,000



BARNEHURST
Two Bed Garden Flat for Refurb.
Guide: £95,000 Plus



FOLKESTONE
Semi for Improvement
Guide: £140-145,000



WICKHAMBREUX, CANTERBURY
Chocolate Box Cottage in Village
Guide: £300-320,000



GARLINGE, MARGATE
House for Investment or Occupation
Guide: £100-110,000



RAMSGATE
Flat with Harbour View
Guide: £70-75,000



FAIRBOURNE HEATH
Cottage and Four Acre Paddock
Guide: £210-230,000



HYTHE
Cottage & Land with Planning
Guide: £95-100,000



WILLESBOROUGH
Semi Detached House for Completion
Guide: £125-135,000



DOVER
Terrace House for Refurbishment
Guide: £50-55,000



MARGATE
Substantial Property with Potential
Guide: £155-170,000

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South Ashford



Clockhouse £134,950

Chain free and refurbished 2 bed EOT with gge. Porch, lounge with stairs to landing. Replacement kitchen/diner. New bathroom. Two bedrooms.

Kennington



Galloway Drive £179,995

Three bedroom semi-detached house with car port parking for two cars with kitchen, lounge/diner, family bathroom, rear garden and is being offered as a chain-free sale.

Washford Farm



Southbourne OIEO £150,000

Chain free 3 bedroom semi detached with lounge, kitchen/breakfast, family bathroom, rear garden, parking for 2 cars.

Godinton Park



Lime Close OIEO £160,000

PR £160,000 to £170,000. Three bedroom staggered terrace with lounge/diner, kitchen, conservatory, garage en bloc, approx. 55ft rear garden.

Kennington



Park Road £169,995

Well presented 3 bed semi in lovely location. Gge, hallway, lounge to front, dining to rear, rear kitchen and lean-to. Two double beds, a single bed and bathroom. Chain free!

Singleton



Grasslands OIRO £179,995

Three bedroom semi detached house on corner plot location, off road parking, two reception rooms, double glazing, gas central heating, downstairs WC.

5 Day Notice



Gladstone Road, South Willborough,
Ashford, Kent TN24 0BY

Three bedroom terrace house in need of work. Lounge/diner, kitchen, ground floor bathroom, low maintenance front garden and good sized rear garden. Ideal for an investor or first time buyer willing to do some work. We have received an offer of £125,000. Any increased offers are to be received within 5 days of this publication at the above agents.

Knights Park



Antonious Court £249,999

4 bed detached house, large conservatory, garage conversion, en suite, off road parking.

Kennington



Grosvenor Road £289,995

Spacious, extended 4 bedroom semi-det house with range and conservatory. Refurbished. Large lounge, kitchen/diner, gd fl shower room, first floor bathroom with sep cubicle. En-suite bathroom. 4 dble beds. Large garden

Singleton Hill



Tunbridge Way OIEO £265,000

A stunning 4 bed detached house with double garage. Large lounge, separate dining room, kitchen/breakfast and utility. Cloak and bath. Large master bedroom with en-suite.

Kennington



Dunnock Road £335,000-£345,000

Five bedroom detached house with double garage, two en suites, lounge, dining room, kitchen/breakfast, utility, corner plot location.

Town Centre



Albert Road £435,000

6 bed detached house requiring some updating. Large entrance hallway, large lounge, kitchen diner, 1st fl 4 beds & 2 baths and 2nd fl 2 beds and 1 shower rm.

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Close to town with a semi rural feel. One bedroom, sitting room, kitchen, bathroom, d/glazed, gas heating, allocated parking. Ideal first home or for investment.

£116,995



NEW
INSTRUCTIONS

WILLESBOROUGH LEES

Executive det property in sought after area, four beds, master en suite, sitting room, sep dining room, kitchen, u/room, bathroom, double ggs, dble drive, well pres, must be seen.

OIEO £340,000



KENNINGTON

Detached property, four bedrooms (master with en suite), cloakroom sitting room, dining room, kitchen with utility area, bathroom, double garage, gas heating, double glazing.

£365,000



CHARTFIELDS

Coach house style property, two bedrooms sitting / dining room, Fitted kitchen, bathroom, garage, no chain.

£144,995



NEW
INSTRUCTIONS

SINGLETON

Four bed link det home features large master bedroom with en suite, kitchen, u/room, sitting room, sep dining room, main bathroom, cul de sac, d/glazed, gas heating, drive and ggs.

£249,995



WILLESBOROUGH

Character cottage style property, near to schools and local shops, sitting/dining, room kitchen, bathroom, three bedrooms, no chain.

£153,995



CLOSE TO TOWN

Two bedroom mid terr hse. kitchen sitting room bathroom two allocated parking spaces gas heating d/glazing no chain.

£143,995



KENNINGTON

Study, sitting room, kitchen, bathroom, two bedrooms, d/glazed gas heating, courtyard with storage shed, good sized garden, no chain.

£145,000



NEW
INSTRUCTIONS

SELLINDGE

Good sized one (double) bed ground floor flat, large sitting room, kitchen, bathroom, gas heating, double glazed, allocated parking, no chain.

£117,500



WILLESBOROUGH

First floor flat two bedrooms, sitting room kitchen bathroom, gas heating double glazing, off road parking, rear garden.

£115,000



KNIGHTS PARK

Situated in small cul de sac detached three bedroom house (master en suite) sitting room dining room kitchen utility room cloakroom bathroom garage parking rear garden not o/looked.

£239,995



WYE

Two double bedroom bungalow sitting room kitchen shower room conservatory / sun room double glazed walking distance from local shops.

£175,000



KENNINGTON

Detached house, three bedrooms (master en suite), open plan sitting room / dining room, kitchen, bathroom, cloakroom, gas heating, d/glazing, no chain.

£214,995



NEW
INSTRUCTIONS

WILLESBOROUGH

You can see Willesborough and the North Downs from this first floor maisonette, one bed (double), kitchen, sitting room, bathroom, double glazed, gas heating, use of large comm gds, parking.

£115,000



NEW
INSTRUCTIONS

WILLESBOROUGH

Loft void fully boarded with rooflight and own stair access, bay windowed vic cott home, sitting room, dining room, kitchen, two bedroom, first floor bathroom, gas heating, double glazings.

£149,995



KENNINGTON

End terrace house, three bedrooms, sitting room, kitchen/diner, bathroom, gas heating, d/glazing, well placed for local shops and schools, 16'5" x 7'4" conservatory.

£139,995

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Willingdon

£143,000



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- TWO DOUBLE BEDROOMS

Barley Way

£315,000



- FOUR DOUBLE BEDROOM DETACHED HOUSE
- LOUNGE & DINING ROOM
- KITCHEN/BREAKFAST ROOM
- UTILITY & STUDY
- DOUBLE INTEGRAL GARAGE
- ENCLOSED REAR GARDEN

Folkestone

£200,000



- TWO BEDROOM
- GROUND FLOOR APARTMENT
- LOUNGE/DINER
- MODERN FITTED KITCHEN

Ashford

£350,000



- FOUR BEDROOM DETACHED HOUSE
- LOUNGE & DINING ROOM
- MODERN KITCHEN & UTILITY
- SUBSTANTIAL REAR GARDEN
- DOUBLE GARAGE & AMPLE PARKING
- VIEWINGS ESSENTIAL

Willesborough

£190,000



- THREE BEDROOM SEMI DETACHED BUNGALOW
- FITTED KITCHEN
- NO ONWARD CHAIN
- PRISTINE CONDITION

Kingsnorth

£325,000



- DETACHED CHALET BUNGALOW
- 4 BEDROOMS (1 EN-SUITE)
- 24' KITCHEN/DINER
- AMPLE PARKING, DOUBLE GARAGE

Ashford

£145,000



- 2 BEDROOM TERRACE HOUSE
- SHOW-HOME CONDITION
- OPEN PLAN LIVING AREA
- LANDSCAPED REAR GARDEN

Folkestone

£190,000



- GROUND FLOOR VICTORIAN FLAT
- BAY FRONTED LOUNGE
- FOUR PIECE BATHROOM SUITE
- MODERN FITTED KITCHEN

Willesborough

£119,950



- FIRST FLOOR CONVERSION FLAT
- OPEN PLAN LIVING AREA
- ALLOCATED PARKING SPACE
- DG & CENTRAL HEATED

Willesborough

£187,500



- THREE BEDROOMS
- TWO RECEPTIONS
- DOWNSTAIRS CLOAKROOM
- GARAGE OFF ROAD PARKING

WYE

£229,995



- COTTAGE STYLE VILLAGE HOME
- MIDDLE OF THREE COTTAGES
- COURTYARD SETTING
- 3 BEDROOMS

LITTLE BURTON

£325,000



- SUPERB EXECUTIVE HOME
- FOUR BEDROOMS (master and guest with en-suite)
- DOUBLE ASPECT LOUNGE

SINGLETON

£279,995



- FOUR BEDROOMS
- LOUNGE WITH FIREPLACE
- SEPARATE DINING ROOM
- GROUND FLOOR BEDROOM

GODINTON PARK

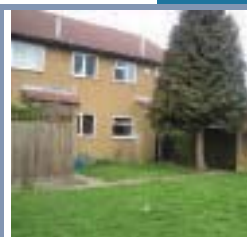
£375,000



- MAGNIFICENT FAMILY HOME
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- ARRANGED OVER 3 FLOORS
- FOUR BATHROOM/SHOWER

SINGLETON

£119,995



- ONE DOUBLE BEDROOM
- LOUNGE WITH FRENCH DOORS
- FEATURE SPIRAL STAIRCASE
- MODERN KITCHEN

KENNINGTON

£125,000



- FIRST FLOOR APARTMENT
- 2 BEDROOMS (MASTER WITH BUILT-IN WARDROBES)
- MODERN KITCHEN

WASHFORD FARM

£134,950



- SEMI-DETACHED HOUSE
- TWO SEPARATE BEDROOMS
- LOUNGE/DINER & KITCHEN
- FAMILY BATHROOM/W.V.C

WASHFORD FARM

£189,950



- 4 BEDROOM SEMI DETACHED
- OPEN PLAN LOUNGE / CONSERVATORY
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£164,995



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- GARAGE & ALLOCATED PARKING

PARK FARM

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- FOUR BEDROOM DETACHED
- POPULAR PARK FARM LOCATION
- KITCHEN/BREAKFAST ROOM
- CONSERVATORY

KENNINGTON

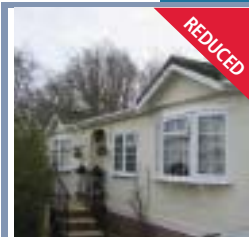
£122,500



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- THREE SEPARATE BEDROOMS
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Ashford £230,000
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Kingsnorth £175,000
Three bedroom semi detached property. Lounge/diner, fitted kitchen & bathroom. Garden.
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Ashford OIEO £99,950
Two bedroom apartment. D/glazing, c/heating, lounge & kitchen.

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Ashford £164,950
Two bedroom home. Lounge, open plan kitchen, dining room & bathroom. Garden.

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Kennington £237,500
Four bedroom detached house. Lounge, dining area, large fitted kitchen, downstairs cloak room, utility room, bathroom, conservatory, rear garden.

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Willborough £250,000
Four bedroom detached house. Lounge, dining area, large fitted kitchen, downstairs cloak room, utility room, bathroom, conservatory, rear garden.

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Mersham £250,000
Delightful former coach house set in village location. Light spacious and charming accommodation. Two receptions, kitchen, three bedrooms, bathroom.

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Kennington £135,000
Two bedroom end of terrace. Lounge, kitchen, bathroom & conservatory. Garden, c/heating & d/glazing.

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Ashford Asking Price £165,000
Three bedroom semi detached, lounge/diner, kitchen, utility, bathroom. Garage, garden, c/heating & d/glazing.

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Egerton £270,000
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Willesborough

- Two bedroom terrace house
- Lounge and kitchen/diner, Bathroom.
- Off road parking & garden

£139,995

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Willesborough

- Two bedrooms, bathroom
- Lounge, kitchen/diner
- Off road parking & garden

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Willesborough

- Three bedroom terrace house
- Lounge kitchen/diner, Bathroom.
- Garden & allocated parking.

£155,000

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Willesborough

- Three bedroom detached bungalow.
- Lounge, kitchen & bathroom
- C/heating & d/glazing.

£170,000

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Willesborough

- Three bedroom semi detached house
- Lounge, dining room
- kitchen & bathroom.

OIEO £180,000

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Kingsnorth

- Four bedroom detached house.
- Two reception rooms.
- Oak flooring, Neff appliances

£282,000

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Kennington

- 3 bedroom semi detached house.
- Dining room and lounge.
- Extended kitchen. Viewing recommended.

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Ashford

- Four bedroom detached house
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Kennington

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Ashford



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Repton Park



£134,950

Ground floor two bedroom apartment. Open plan living with lounge, dining area & kitchen. Garden & parking.

Ashford



£154,995

Two bedroom semi detached house with recently updated kitchen. No chain.

Ashford



£169,950

Three bedroom mid terrace. Lounge, kitchen/dining room, bathroom. Garden & off road parking.

Kennington



£169,995

Three bedroom end of terrace home. Kitchen, cloakroom, lounge/diner with three bedrooms and bathroom.

Ashford



OIRO £175,000

Three bedroom semi detached house. No chain. Three reception rooms. Driveway, car port and garage.

Ashford



Offers Over £215,000

Three/four bedroom semi detached property. Open plan lounge/diner, conservatory. Garden, garage & parking.

Kingsnorth



£269,950

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Willesborough



OIEO £230,000

Four bedroom semi detached home. Lounge, dining room, kitchen, utility room & bathroom. Garage & garden.

Warehorne



£299,950

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Learning Support Teacher

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 with students with specific learning difficulties is
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Teacher of Psychology

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 contact the Headmaster's PA, Mrs C Blackwell,
 for further details of the posts and an application
 form. Closing date for applications is 13th May
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Please contact Mrs Anne Rylands, Head's PA, Ashford School for more
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T: 01233 739032 • E: rylandsa@ashfordschool.co.uk



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The Westlands School



Welfare Assistant

33.75 hours per week 38 weeks per year
(8.15am – 12.30pm and 1.00pm – 3.30pm)
Salary in the range £16,793 - £18,471 pro rata (Equivalent to £12,758 - £14,032)

Required for September 2010

The Westlands School is seeking to appoint a school welfare assistant with basic first aid training. The key responsibilities will be to assist students with health/medical concerns and to be in charge of the day to day running of the welfare room.

You are welcome to contact the school for a preliminary discussion if desired. Recruitment packs are available from the school or online.
Closing date, Friday, 21 May 2010

Westlands Avenue, Sittingbourne,
Kent ME10 1PF
www.westlands.kent.sch.uk
Tel: 01795 477475 Fax: 01795 47946
Email: swa@westlands.kent.sch.uk
Headteacher: J Whitcombe MA



MidKent College

MidKent College based in the Medway Towns and Maidstone is seeking to appoint outstanding individuals in the following areas:

Lecturer in Electrical Installation Ref: P0357

Salary: £28,463 - £32,251 per annum (dependant on qualifications and experience)
Medway

We are looking to recruit an enthusiastic individual to deliver Electrical Installation to learners studying from level 1 to level 3. The successful candidate will contribute to the development, delivery and teaching of Electrical Installation programmes. The ideal candidate must have a current knowledge and practical experience of the Building Services Industry, have sufficient teaching experience and educated to Level 3 or the equivalent in the relevant field. The successful candidate must have; an Advanced Craft Certificate, including inspection and testing of installations and possess either a D32/34 or A & V Awards and hold a recognised teaching qualification or be willing to work towards one. Good IT skills and the ability to work within a team are essential.

Lecturer in Travel and Tourism Ref: P0154

Salary: £24,096 - £27,881 pro rata (dependant on qualifications and experience)
22.2 hours per week Medway

An exciting opportunity has arisen for an excellent candidate to deliver and participate in the development of the Travel and Tourism programmes. Responsibilities will include establishing and developing travel and tourism industry contacts to enhance the students learning experience. A recognised Travel and Tourism qualification is essential. The successful candidate will hold or be willing to work towards a recognised teaching qualification.

Lecturer in Functional Skills Ref: P0468

Salary: £24,096 - £27,881 per annum (dependant on qualifications and experience)
Medway

The College is seeking an exceptional candidate to participate in the delivery of Skills for Life qualifications across all the College Faculties. The successful candidate will be willing to organise and lead extracurricular and enrichment activities and contribute to the development of Functional Skills across the College. The ideal candidate will have experience of teaching Basic and Skills and Functional Skills and hold or be willing to work towards a recognised teaching qualification.

Market Research Officer Ref: P0464

Salary: £18,709 - £20,674 pro rata
18.5 hours per week (The College operates a flexible working policy)
Medway

We are looking for a creative and enthusiastic individual to assist the Marketing Team in devising and implementing effective internal and external market research. Excellent IT skills are essential as the role will also include keeping the College website up to date. The ideal candidate will have experience of carrying out market research activities and a good working knowledge of market research related software such as SNAP or Active.

Hourly Paid Lecturer in IT Ref: SE006

Hourly rate: £22.64 - £27.46 (dependant on qualifications and experience)

The College is looking to recruit a passionate individual to teach BTEC National and First Diploma IT programmes. Experience and knowledge of BTEC is desirable and ability to teach Functional Skills to level 2 would be welcome. The ideal candidate will hold or be willing to work towards a recognised Teaching Qualification.

Closing date: Wednesday 19 May 2010

MidKent College is working in partnership with RBLI Employment Solutions to support individuals who have a disability or health condition in the application, interview and employment with the college. If you would like any further information regarding RBLI, or require assistance with your application process then please contact RBLI on 0800 783 1144 or visit their website www.rbli.co.uk for information, advice and guidance.

The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau check in accordance with the College procedure.

Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the HR department on 01634 383102 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number.

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MidKent College

MidKent College based in the Medway Towns and Maidstone is seeking to appoint an outstanding individual in the following area:

Lecturer in Civil Engineering Ref: P0333

Salary: £26,283 - £28,463 per annum
(dependent on qualifications and experience)

Medway

We are looking for an outstanding individual to teach and participate in the development of Civil Engineering programmes across the Faculty of Advanced Construction and Engineering. The successful candidate will possess qualities of reliability, have good communication skills and hold an HNC/HND/Foundation degree or higher in the above Engineering specialism. Previous industry experience is essential. The ideal candidates will hold or be willing to work towards a recognised teaching qualification.

Closing date: Wednesday 26 May 2010

MidKent College is working in partnership with RBLI Employment Solutions to support individuals who have a disability or health condition in the application, interview and employment with the college. If you would like any further information regarding RBLI, or require assistance with your application process then please contact RBLI on 0800 783 1144 or visit their website www.rbli.co.uk for information, advice and guidance.

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Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the HR department on 01634 383102 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number.

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For further information please contact Mrs Julie Wilson, Headteacher, Northfleet School for Girls, Hall Road, Northfleet, Kent DA11 8AQ

Tel: 0844 477 2525.

Email: personnel@northfleetgirls.kent.sch.uk

Closing date: Tuesday, 18 May 2010.

Interviews to be held: 24-27 May 2010.

www.northfleetgirls.kent.sch.uk



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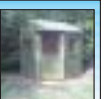
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CRICKET

BY TOM HOWARD

Kent League Division One

Sibton Park 1st XI v Ashford Town 1st XI

A POOR showing with the bat left Ashford Town scratching their heads after a 123-run opening day defeat at Sibton Park.

Sibton won the toss and elected to bat and slowly began to build a total. But Ashford's Craig Buckham gave the home side's batsmen plenty to think about with an impressive spell with the ball.

Mohsin Raza grabbed the wicket of opener Jamie Keeler for a duck, but a solid partnership from Andy Allon (80) and Tim Bishop (60) followed to put Sibton back on track.

Former Ashford skipper Buckham took it upon himself to dismantle the Sibton batsmen, as he eventually broke up the partnership of Allon and Bishop. He took four more wickets, which left Ashford a reachable total of 215 to win at the end of the 50 overs. Buckham was the star for Ashford with figures of 6 for 48.

However, Ashford never really got going with the bat and were in trouble at 54 for 5 early in the innings. Steven Rowe did the damage and finished with figures of 5 for 17. Openers Buckham and skipper Liam Tegg went cheaply before Sam Kennett rescued the innings for Ashford until he departed on 27. Sibton rattled through the Ashford tail and managed to dismiss them for just 91 after only 36.2 overs.

Batsmen fail as Town begin season in defeat



DEFEAT: Ashford's impressive bowling display was not enough to secure an opening day win against Sibton Park at the weekend

SCOREBOARD

Sibton Park 1st XI

	Runs
Jamie Keeler b Raza	0
Andy Allon ct Tegg b Buckham	80
Tim Bishop hit wicket b Buckham	60
Ben Allon ct Buckham b Buckham	0
Steve Hobbs ct McAlister b Buckham	13
Martin Wren b Buckham	14
Steve Hickmott ct Raza b Buckham	18
Steven Rowe not out	9
Sam Newman not out	2
Gareth Meers did not bat	
Tim Smith did not bat	
Extras (8lb 5w 5nb)	18
Total (7 wickets, 50 overs)	214

Bowlers

	O	M	R	W
Mohsin Raza	12	3	48	1
Luca Sardo	5	0	27	0
Darren Cooper	11	0	40	0
Sam Kennett	3	0	22	0
Craig Buckham	15	2	48	6
Liam Tegg	4	0	21	0

Ashford Town 1st XI

	Runs
Craig Buckham lbw b Rowe	2
Liam Tegg ct Hobbs b Rowe	21
Luke Reeves b Rowe	0
Gary Sutton lbw b Rowe	7
Kyle McAlister b Rowe	0
Peter Shields b Meers	12
James Rodway lbw b Meers	4
Sam Kennett ct Hobbs b Newman	27
Mohsin Raza lbw b Allon	9
Luca Sardo ct Wren b Newman	0
Darren Cooper not out	0
Extras (4lb 2lb 3w)	9
Total (all out, 36.2 overs)	91

Bowlers

	O	M	R	W
Steven Rowe	12	4	17	5
Tim Smith	10	2	26	0
Gareth Meers	5	0	12	2
Sam Newman	8.2	1	30	2
Andy Allon	1	1	0	1

LOCAL CRICKET ROUND-UP

KENT LEAGUE DIVISION TWO

Tenterden 1st XI v Hayes 1st XI

TENTERDEN began life in Division Two with a comfortable six-wicket win against Hayes.

The hosts gave themselves a great chance of victory by limiting Hayes to just 148, thanks to a destructive bowling attack. Timir Chanda took five wickets alongside three for James Rand and two for Ben Daking.

Tenterden's reply was brisk but was largely down to a great knock from Chanda (87). Tim Curteis (35) and Andrew Crawford (16) helped Tenterden ease past the total after 31.2 overs.

Hayes 1st XI

	Runs
Sam Dowsett	0
Sam Davis	1
Jamie Askew	31
Martin Pratt	0
Beau Couldrey	5
O'Neil Blake	8
Joel Couldrey	54
Tanjeen Chowdhury	10
Ashley Quayle	5
Anthony Sharpe	12
Andrew Eddicott	1
Extras	20
Total	148

Bowlers	O	M	R	W
Ben Daking	8	2	37	2
James Rand	7	1	33	3
Timir Chanda	13.2	1	35	5
Mark Baker	11	2	27	0

Tenterden 1st XI

	Runs
Tim Curteis	35
Andrew Crawford	16
Timir Chanda	87
Darren Bailey	4
Paul Brann	7
Nick Daynes	0
Simon Berry	0
Mark Brann	0
Ben Daking	0
James Rand	0
Mark Baker	0
Extras	0
Total	149

Bowlers	O	M	R	W
Andrew Eddicott	7	1	30	1
Anthony Sharpe	4	0	24	1
Ashley Quayle	13.2	3	44	1
Joel Couldrey	4	1	25	1
Jamie Askew	3	0	26	0

KENT REGIONAL CRICKET LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP EAST

Yalding 1st XI v Wye 1st XI

A STRONG Yalding batting display proved too much for Wye as they suffered a 99-run defeat in difficult wet conditions.

Despite a number of showers the game managed to reach a conclusion with half-centuries from Yalding duo Marty Hollis and Jumshad Haider, helping to secure a comfortable win.

Wye needed a good start to their reply as they tried to chase down 212, but it failed to arrive. Haider's spell with the ball accounted for their opening three batsmen for just 19. The visitors tried to recover but were dismissed for 113.

Yalding 1st XI

	Runs
Matthew Thomas	18
Graham Hutchins	20
Marty Hollis	65
Joel Shopland	1
Mohammad Waseem	1
John Ryan	0
James Fenn	37
Jumshad Haider	57
Anthony Shepherd	4
Andrew Robinson	0
Jonathan Card	0
Extras	13
Total	212

Bowlers	O	M	R	W
Will Elgar	8	0	47	0
Alex Woodbridge	8	0	49	0
Stuart Wise	9	0	35	2
Keith Secrett	8	0	24	3
Mark Shannon	4	0	30	1
Raj Mahadevaiah	3	0	19	1

Wye 1st XI

	Runs
Nick Eve	14
David Fletcher	3
David Noden	2
Giles Starley	18
Raj Mahadevaiah	0
Stuart Wise	19
Will Elgar	22
Alex Woodbridge	24
Matt Barlow	2
Keith Secrett	1
Mark Shannon	5
Extras	22
Total	113

Bowlers	O	M	R	W
Jumshad Haider	6	2	8	4
James Fenn	8	2	24	0
Mohammad Waseem	7	2	22	0
Anthony Shepherd	6	0	29	2
Andrew Robinson	5	0	35	1
Marty Hollis	3	1	3	3

KENT LEAGUE DIVISION TWO 2ND XI

Ashford Town 2nd XI v Tenterden 2nd XI

RICHARD Williams' eight-wicket haul helped Tenterden 2nds to a comprehensive seven-wicket win against neighbours Ashford Town.

Williams sythed his way through the Ashford batsmen to leave them all-out for 106 after 31.4 overs. He proved to be just as capable with the bat in his hands as he top scored with 44 in Tenterden's reply.

Chris and Bradley Hobbs hit the winning runs in the 32nd over as Tenterden eased home for the loss of just three wickets.

Ashford Town 2nd XI

	Runs
Neil Tegg	1
Fraser Harrison	11
Darran Wood	17
Dean Clark	17
Alex Boatfield	2
Ben Eallham	1
Steve Tanner	9
Shane Beech	20
Thomas Bailey	17
Sarah Kennett	2
Mark Gill	0
Extras	9
Total	106

Bowlers	O	M	R	W
Nick Hall	12	2	27	2
Stuart Saunders	5	0	23	0
Richard Williams	10.4	1	37	8
Jay Parker	4	0	18	0

Tenterden 2nd XI

	Runs
Scott Freeman	5
Richard Williams	44
Chris Hobbs	33
Matt Barton	6
Bradley Hobbs	16
Nick Hall	0
Stuart Saunders	0
Ryan Knight	0
Richard Pearman	0
Jay Parker	0
Tim Russell	0
Extras	3
Total	107

Bowlers	O	M	R	W
Thomas Bailey	5	0	21	0
Ben Eallham	5	2	12	1
Shane Beech	6	1	13	0
Alex Boatfield	7	0	25	2
Sarah Kennett	5	0	29	0
Steve Tanner	3.1	0	7	0

KENT REGIONAL LEAGUE 1B CENTRAL

Willesborough 1st XI v Rainham 3rd XI

A PARTNERSHIP between Graeme Marsh and Stuart Wilmer forged the way to a five-wicket win for Willesborough.

Rainham's batsmen struggled to cope with the home side's bowling attack and could only post 94 from their 40 overs. John Webster was the host's best bowler with figures of 3 for 15.

Willesborough, who made a slow start to their innings early on, comfortably surpassed 94 in the 33rd over, with an unbeaten 34 from Marsh and 36 from Wilmer.

Rainham 3rd XI

	Runs
Chris Taylor	16
Robert Hutton	6
Oliver Lea	28
Chris Newman	2
Surendra Dass	0
Joe Ainsley	0
Robin Beer	14
Alex Reeve	4
Oliver Prince	5
Steve Cooper	5
Ryan Ward	0
Extras	14
Total	94

Bowlers

	O	M	R	W
Callum Stuckey	10	4	23	2
James Thomas	10	2	25	2
John Webster	10	2	15	3
Stuart Wilmer	10	1	21	2

Willesborough 1st XI

	Runs
Darren Stear	6
Graeme Marsh	34
John Webster	1
Robert Aides	0
Jez Sharp	0
Adam Pressland	5
Stuart Wilmer	36
Callum Stuckey	0
Lewis Back	0
James Thomas	0
Jake Murphy	0
Extras	6
Total	95

Bowlers

	O	M	R	W
Oliver Lea	10	2	22	1
Chris Newman	10	5	18	4
Joe Ainsley	6	0	20	0
Ryan Ward	2	0	11	0
Oliver Prince	1	0	3	0
Robin Beer	3	0	11	0
Robert Hutton	0.5	0	4	0

Camier edges closer to that podium finish.....

SUPERBIKES

BY TOM HOWARD

TWO top-five finishes put Leon Camier's World Superbike Championship campaign back on track after a solid weekend at the Italian round in Monza.

The Ashford rider moved up to eighth in the rider standings after finishing fourth and fifth in the two races on Sunday at the famous high-speed Monza circuit.

The weekend started slowly for the 23-year-old as he struggled in qualifying and could only post a time good enough for 13th on the grid.

He put the poor showing in qualifying behind him in race one, as he leapt from the fourth row of the grid into the main group on the opening lap. He picked off riders lap-by-lap and eventually crossed the finish line in fifth place.

The second race saw the Aprilia rider make a good start

but contact at the first chicane saw him lose ground on the lead group. He soon recovered and made his way up through the field into fourth spot, where he stayed for the remainder of the race.

Camier's two top-five finishes, coupled with team-mate Max Biaggi winning both races, helped the Aprilia team top the manufacturers' standings at their home round.

The reigning British Superbike champion was happy to end his run of three retirements from the last four races and believes he is edging closer to a maiden championship win.

He said: "The weekend was positive. I started well in race two as well but contact on the first chicane made me lose some time against the leading group. I recovered, but a few too many mistakes kept me from closing the gap, even though I gave it my all down to the end. I'm growing, I can feel it and I know that we're ready to achieve important results."

After the high-speed challenge of Monza, Camier heads to South Africa this weekend for the next round of the championship at the undulating Kyalami circuit.



EDGING CLOSER: Leon Camier believes he is getting closer to recording his first World Superbike win after a solid weekend at the Italian round in Monza

FOOTBALL



Picture: ICR KIPRO

NEW BLOOD: Steve Lovell is keen to add to his Ashford Town squad for next season

Lovell puts together wish-list ahead of Crosbie meeting

ASHFORD Town boss Steve Lovell has already drawn up a list of players he wishes to sign for next season.

After a disappointing campaign which saw the Nuts & Bolts narrowly avoid relegation last month, the Town boss is keen to strengthen his squad to bring success back to the Homelands next season.

The Ashford manager has already targeted a number of new signings and is eager to build his new squad. Lovell was due to meet chairman Don Crosbie last week to discuss plans for next season, but the meeting has been rearranged for this week.

Lovell said: "I have still got to sit down with Don Crosbie and talk about next year. At the moment we don't know what the budget will be for next season. I have already looked at where we need to strengthen our squad and I've put a list of players together who I would like to talk to, so now we have just got to wait and see."

The club's new academy director, Mark Patterson, is expected to become Lovell's assistant manager for next season following the departure of Hugo Langton. Lovell thanked Langton for his work over the last two years but admitted he's looking forward to working alongside his former Gillingham team-mate.

He said: "With Mark coming in to head the academy there was really no call to have three coaches at the club, so unfortunately Hugo left. He's done a great job while he's been here and I'm sure he will find another club. Mark will now help me on Saturdays and his experience with coaching younger players will be invaluable."

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Mark Stimson speaks to the press for the last time as Gillingham manager

...while brother Alex opts for cycling career

CYCLING

CONVERTED superbike racer Alex Camier is eyeing a place in the Sarremaa Velotuur in Estonia next month as he continues an impressive start to his cycling career.

The 21-year-old former superbike rider has made rapid progress since he switched to cycling last year and is hoping to embark on his biggest challenge yet with a five-day 532km race.

Camier, brother of World Superbike rider Leon, switched to cycling full-time after finding superbike rides difficult to come by. The rider from Bethersden, near Ashford, who rides for Faversham-based team Toachim House, leads the South East Road Race Championship this season.

Despite only one five-day race under his belt, he hopes to earn a place in the British Science in Sport cycle team for the Sarremaa Velotuur, alongside friend and Ashford professional cyclist Ian Field.

Camier said: "I've won a few events now so I'm going to stick with cycling and hopefully do it professionally. It will be a real tough event if I get an entry into the race. I have always been into cycling as I used to ride bikes a lot with Leon as it's good training for superbike racing. Things seem to be going well and I'm enjoying my cycling."

Professional cyclocross rider and Great Britain international, Field, regularly trains with Camier and believes the event would be beneficial for his bid to become a professional



NEW CHALLENGE: Alex Camier aims to swap the roads of Kent with a grueling five-day race in Estonia next month road race cyclist.

He said: "It would be great event for Alex as he continues his road racing education. He's doing really well so far, so hopefully this event will give him a boost."

The race begins on June 15.



OVER PAR: Benn Barham had a frustrating time trying to regain his tour card at the BMW Italian Open

Triple bogey proved costly for Barham

GOLF

BENN Barham's return to the European Tour lasted just 36 holes as he failed to make the cut at the BMW Italian Open.

The Ashford golfer, hoping to regain his European Tour card for 2011, was left to rue a triple bogey on the opening round which proved costly for his tournament hopes.

The 34-year-old, who entered the tournament on a high after finishing sixth at the Turkish Airlines Challenge earlier this month, began the tournament well. His steady start came to a halt at the 16th and 17th hole, where he dropped four shots.

A three-over-par opening round left Barham needing to shoot low in his second round to make the cut but he could only post a level par 72, which was not enough to see him through to the final two rounds. The Chart Hills golfer finished the tournament in tied 88th position.

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